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THE "NEGROES" OF INDIA

By HARRY PAXTON HOWARD

West Virginia State's New Building

Built at a cost of $350,000, the new health and physical education building at West Virginia State College, is the last word in modern construction and equipment. The structure is a two story T shaped building, with a maximum width of 202 feet and a maximum length of 220 feet, of modified Elizabethan Tudor style, with a trend toward the modern. Tucker and Silling of Charleston, West Virginia, were the architects.

Located at the south end of the campus quadrangle, the massive edifice of tapestry brick with Indiana limestone trim easily attracts the attention of visitors. In the front facade appear incised low-relief carvings of athletic figures featuring the subjects, boxing, baseball, fencing, hockey, tennis, swimming, track, archery, football and basketball.

The swimming pool of glass tile measures 75 feet by 30 feet with southern exposure leading to a terrace for sun bathing which has a seating capacity of 1,100. The main gymnasium has a playing floor space of 94 feet by 77 feet, and seats for 2,500 persons. Two basketball games can be played simultaneously.

Administrative offices for the director of the program of health and physical education and other instructors are located on the first floor of the main building unit. Here are to be found also the class rooms and main store rooms. In addition, on the first floor are located the Health Center, reception rooms, doctor's and nurse's offices, examination rooms, operating room, dental unit and X Ray and fluoroscope room, locker rooms for men and women, shower rooms, team rooms, a kitchenette, offices for coaches, laundry, drying room, check rooms.

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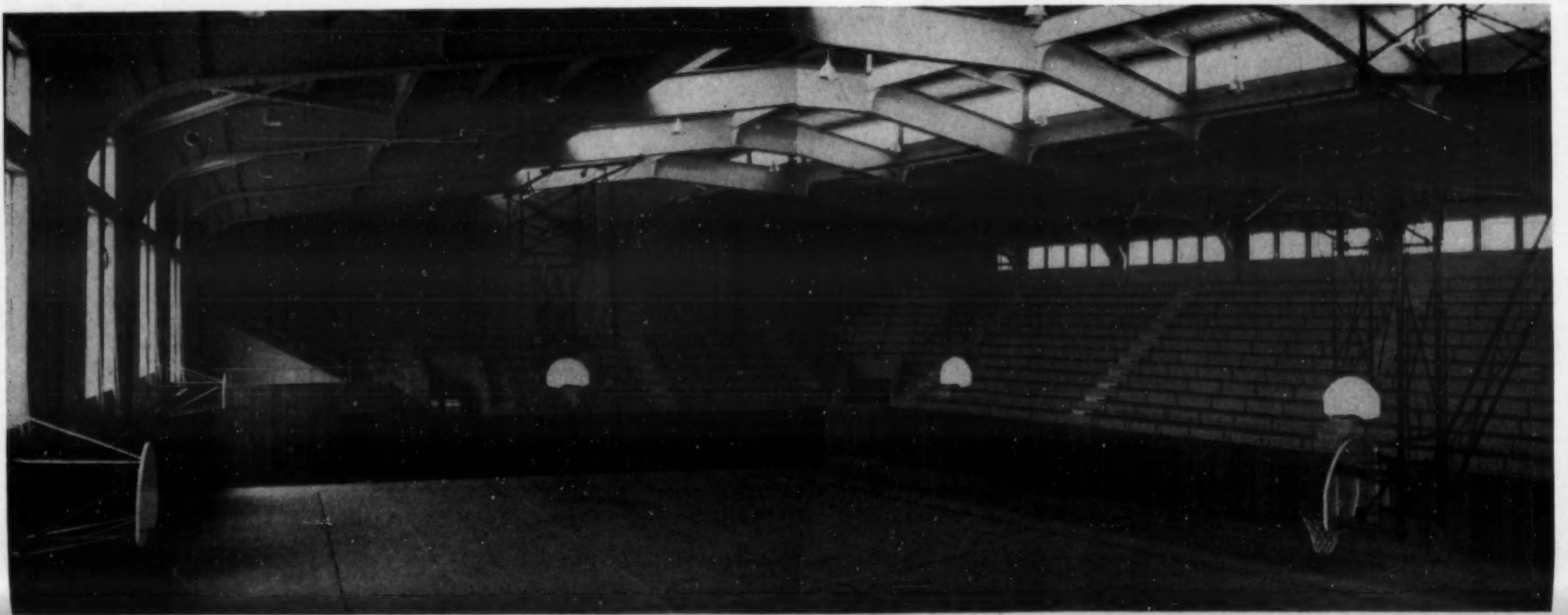
Above: Exterior view of the new health and physical education building at West Virginia State College, Institute, W. Va.

Below: Main gymnasium with its sound-proof playing floor where two basketball games may be played simultaneously.



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College and School News

Miss Margaret A. Walker, Department of English, **West Virginia State College**, has the distinction of being the 41st and only Negro winner of the coveted Yale University Series of Younger Poets prize. The prize carries $100 award plus royalties on the sale of her volume of poems "For My People" published October 20, 1942, by the Yale University Press, with foreword by Stephen Vincent Benet. Born in Birmingham, Ala., she graduated from Northwestern University from which she received the Master of Arts degree in 1940.

The Royal Hamptonians, popular **Hampton Institute** student orchestra, disbanded Nov. 1, 1942, when eleven of its members enlisted as a unit in the U. S. Navy.

Hampton will be unable to accommodate any new students at the beginning of the second semester on December 28.

William M. Cooper, director of the summer school and extension work has been appointed senior field representative in the Office of War Information in Washington, D. C. He has been associated with Hampton since 1928.

Owen Dodson, director of the Communications Theatre has enlisted in the U. S. Navy.

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The 26th annual convocation of the **Howard University** School of Religion was held November 10–12, with many notable speakers.

The Kellog Foundation has given Howard $20,000 for medical and dental scholarships; while two Law School graduates, Robert J. Dickey and Jerome B. Smith, left the substantial sums of $36,000 and $20,000 respectively in their wills.

According to Dr. James M. Nabrit, Jr., secretary of the university, Howard now has an enrollment of 3,549 students, the largest in its history.

The Board of Trustees has authorized the opening of a nursery school under the Department of Home Economics, for pre-school age children.

The U. S. Government has established a $9,000 loan fund for Howard students majoring in physics and chemistry.

Dr. Charles H. Thompson, dean of the Liberal Arts College, has been granted a year's leave of absence beginning in January, to do research work on the life of Booker T. Washington under sponsorship of the Julius Rosenwald Fund.

Associate Professor Sterling A. Brown has been promoted to Professor, and Vernon Henderson Powell, a Fisk and Meharry graduate, has been appointed full-time instructor in the School of Dentistry.

With an enrollment of 178 freshmen from 20 States, **Morehouse College** boasts the largest first year registration in its history. James Westley Forte of Birmingham, Ala., is class president.

The General Education Board has made **Shaw University** a grant of $45,000 for further renovation of buildings, being the largest single donation to the university for twenty years. Shaw must raise a similar amount within an assigned period.

The General Baptist State Convention will raise and contribute to Shaw University $20,000 this year as the first effort to match the General Education Board gift.

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Miss Doris Lowery, student at Alabama A & M College, Normal, Ala., symbolizes the thousands of Negro farmers who are raising turkeys, and other foods so that our fighting men, our allies and our war workers will have adequate supplies. When Thanksgiving tables are spread both for our military men and civilian population, farmers will have the turkeys there. Although weather conditions have prevented growers from reaching the goal set by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, this year's turkey crop of 33,786,000 represents a slight increase over 1941 production

Keystone, W. Va., and a 1913 Shaw alumnus, delivered the Founder's Day address on Nov. 20.

G. L. Washington, director of the School of Mechanical Industries and Aeronautics at **Tuskegee Institute** announces that the quota of primary flying cadets has been increased to 52 every five weeks, which calls for expansion of teaching staff and barracks accommodations on the campus. A new hangar on Field II is being constructed by students. The field is named after former Tuskegee president, Robert R. Moton.

New members of the staff of the School of Home Economics are Misses Sadie McAllister, Birmingham, Ala., and Helen H. Coates, New York University graduate school, and Mrs. Fannie McInge, New York City. On leave is Miss Queen E. Shootes, seeking her doctorate at the University of Wisconsin.

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New Tuskegee trustees are Jesse Jones, head of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and Basil O'Conner, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc.

The American Hotel Association has given $1,000 to Tuskegee for the training of hotel chefs in its Commercial Dietetics course.

Dr. Leslie Pinckney Hill, president of **Cheyney State Teachers College,** made a tour of midwestern state teachers colleges during November. In his talks he stressed interracial goodwill.

Every student enrolled at **Bennett College** has received a Bible on which her name is engraved in gold. The gift was made possible through the cooperation of Dr. Dan H. Stanton, of Atlanta, Ga., representative of the American Bible Society, and Bishop A. P. Shaw of the Methodist Church.

Lloyd Hughes, new **Lincoln University (Mo.)** faculty member, has been appointed a Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs in the Department of Science and Education in Washington, D. C.

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Volume 49, Number 12 *Whole Number 384*

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910 *and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, N. Y., by The Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15¢ *a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November* 2, 1910, *at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March* 3, 1879, *and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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NEXT MONTH

There will be an article by Constance H. Curtis on the United Seamen's Service and its ignoring of the color line in the establishment of rest homes for merchant seamen ashore. A new series of pictures of Negro soldiers in the United States Army is planned. There will also be the fifth group of photographs in the series, "First Ladies of Colored America."

A new photographic series "Queens of the Colleges" will include portraits of the most attractive co-eds at A. M. and N. College, Rust College, Prairie View College and Dillard University, as voted by the respective student bodies.

The article "The 'Negroes' of India" will be concluded.

•

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Harry Paxton Howard has lived in the Far East for 25 years, 5 years in Japan and 19 in China. He is the author of "The Socialist and Labor Movement in Japan" publication of which caused his deportation from that country. He was the editor of various newspapers in China, among them the *China Courier* at Shanghai. At one time he was professor of Chinese diplomatic history at Soochow University. Since his return to the United States in 1940 he has been a prolific writer and lecturer on problems of the Far East.

John Lovell, Jr. is on the faculty of Howard University, is director of student activities there and was secretary of the District of Columbia NAACP branch from 1939 until November, 1942. Josephine Schuyler lives in New York City. George S. Schuyler is business manager of THE CRISIS and associate editor of the Pittsburgh *Courier*.

W. Montague Cobb is professor of anatomy in the School of Medicine at Howard University.

•

Editorials

Lynching—Usual Aftermath

THE three lynchings staged in Mississippi within five days during October had the usual aftermath. A Denver, Colo., daily paper summed up the situation in a headline: Grand Jury Ignores Lynching. These four words tell the story of why the NAACP and colored people generally, together with millions of white Americans, continue to demand the passage of a federal anti-lynching law. Their argument is that the states will not punish the crime of lynching. It is a truism which has been demonstrated over and over again. In the latest shocking lynchings in Mississippi, that state maintained its unique record in race relations by having a grand jury, *called especially by a judge to consider the lynchings*, bring in a report which did not even mention the crime it had been convened to investigate.

If America really wants to rid itself of lynching—a crime which occurs here and nowhere else in the world—the remedy would seem to be federal action. In this wartime, America cannot afford to have the Sikestons and the Shubutas menace the struggle for victory by their brutal and selfish insistence on the hanging and burning of human beings. Such acts, it is needless to point out, give definite and valuable aid to the enemies of the nation and for that reason, if not for the sake of American decency, the nation should act against lynchers and lynching communities.

Heiling Hitler

THE men in the United States Senate who, on November 23, carried through the "deal" to kill the bill which would have abolished the poll tax have betrayed their country's war effort. One has to rub one's eyes to be certain our lawmakers in this instance were at work on Capitol Hill instead of on the Wilhelmstrasse.

For make no mistake about it, the iniquitous poll tax, which deprives ten million white and black Americans in eight states of the right to vote, is one with Hitler's philosophy. Any act which fails to recognize it as such and which supports it, especially in the midst of a war "for democracy" is sabotaging the blood and billions we are pouring into the fight for victory.

Our Senate had a chance to wipe out this tax and give the thousands of poor white and Negro boys in the armed forces from the eight poll tax states something for which to fight and die. The men in the highest legislative body in "the greatest democracy on earth" had a chance to translate into actuality the fine words of the Four Freedoms doctrine.

The nation going so proudly and so boastfully to battle in the four corners of the earth to bring "freedom" to oppressed peoples is made to hang its head in shame by a handful of wilful, bigoted men who are determined that the revolution convulsing the world shall not touch their tight little principalities.

The stomach of every decent man and woman in America is turned by the shameless spectacle of our Senators resorting to mere and mean technicalities to deny to millions of Americans, even while they sacrifice and fight for their country, the elementary right to elect their own representatives in the government.

Gandhi is smiling a toothless- and Tojo a toothy-smile today. Goebbels is grinning. Has not Hitler said that the democracies cannot function and that they will be conquered not necessarily by Fascist armies but by Fascist divisionists from within? Our Senate, with enough votes to pass the anti-poll tax bill with the vast majority of the people favoring it has hurt and divided our people by conniving with and bowing to a petty minority of Senators from poll tax states. These few men had no votes to win. They had only the will to obstruct, to quote one of them, "until hell freezes over." Such is democracy one year after Pearl Harbor.

Majority leader Barkley, by his agreement to drop the bill if cloture should not be voted, must have known he was selling the bill down the river, since cloture has been voted only on rare occasions. Barkley was agreeing to abide by a decision he knew was fixed. He was not advancing his legislation or taking even a small gamble. He was killing the bill.

But the end is not yet. These things cannot go on. Americans are not fighting for freedom abroad only to be denied it at home. The little minority will go. The poll tax will go. The war will be won.

He Wants to Fly a Bomber

HE was a nice looking lad of 23, brown, with clear eyes and wavy black hair. He had two and a half years at a big western state university. He was an amateur "ham" radio operator. At the present he was porter on a lounge car on the Union Pacific, making his last trip westward from Denver, because soon he was to go into the air force at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., for training with the 100th pursuit squadron.

He brought a bottle of beer and set it down, and then he started to talk. He knew the editor was on the train and he wanted to say something. "Do you think," he asked, looking me straight in the eye, "that there will be any chance of us flying bombers? That's what I would like to do, but they are sending me to Tuskegee."

I explained that Tuskegee was not only segregated as to color, but that they taught only pursuit pilot flying there. Thus there was segregation, also, in the type of flying our boys could learn.

"But," said he, "I have had some experience with flying big ships. In Minnesota I used to fly with a man who had a four-motored Stinson. He let me at the controls sometimes when we were up in the air. I'd sure like to fly an Army bomber."

I consoled him as best I could. The Army has made no provision for colored American lads who want to fly bombers and help pulverize the enemies of our nation from the air. I tried to break the news easily. It was not exactly news to him. He had been black for 23 years and he had found out there is nearly always "a catch" in everything where the Negro is concerned. He went to answer a bell and haul out another bottle of beer, but before he went about his business he looked up and smiled, half apologetically, half wistfully: "Maybe by the time I go in they will have a place for us. . . ."

Maybe they will, son. If they could see your straight shoulders and your clear brown eyes afraid of nothing on earth; if they could hear your voice, soft, yet firm; if they could know how you *want* to fight for your country just like the blue-eyed boys want to fight—if they could talk to you, son, maybe they would be ashamed of themselves and let you learn how to fly a bomber to beat the Axis—to win freedom for all peoples. Funny, that "freedom for all peoples." That was what was behind the look in his eye when he asked that hopeful, yet doomed, question. . . .

The Month

War: Charles Jackson French, messman, first class, new hero of war because of rescue of wounded fellow seamen in battle of the Solomons.

Lewis Jones, conscientious objector to service in jim crow army, sentenced to three year term for failure to report for induction.

Negro troops among those in offensive against North Africa.

Liberty Ship Booker T. Washington, under Negro captain Hugh Mulzac, now in active service of merchant marine.

To curb segregation in southern army camps, recent army regulation prohibits use of racial designations on army facilities.

Negro citizens of Los Angeles plan gift of Douglas Aircraft bomber to army.

Labor: Negro workers at Kaiser shipyards now assured equal treatment under anti-discrimination order.

Equal housing facilities for Negro war workers urged by National Committee on the Housing Emergency, October 23.

War Manpower Commission forced employment of Negro workers by five copper companies lagging in schedules because of "manpower shortage".

NAACP and Urban League join forces to fight subordination of Committee on Fair Employment Practice to War Manpower Commission.

Politics: Before Senate, anti-poll tax bill battles minority opposition filibuster.

W. L. Dawson, newly elected Negro congressman from Illinois, succeeds Arthur Mitchell.

Education: Gifts totalling $750,000, received by Howard university, reported at semi-annual trustee meeting, November 7.

All American News, national weekly newsreel, records life and doings of Negroes.

Campus strike at North Carolina State college settled amicably, November 5, between students and faculty.

Agriculture: Southern Tenant Farmers Union at ninth annual convention in Memphis, November 11, plan for increasing war-time food supplies.

In Washington, November 3-7, U. S. Department of Agriculture met with Negro home economists for discussion of Negro family management in war.

Crime: Eleven Negroes, ten women, held incommunicado in Jersey City jails five months, as "material witnesses", by Mayor Hague.

Federal grand jury indictments against U. S. Sugar Corporation, Tampa, on charges of peonage against Negro workers.

Rev. Gloster S. Yates, third Negro minister victim of attack in south, this time in Louisville by white patrolman.

Nazis Dasch and Burger indicted through identification by Negro shoeshine boy, Raymond Martin, aged 15.

Arts: Canada Lee, star of revival, "Native Son", lauded by New York critics for superb performance.

Margaret Walker, New Orleans' winner of 1942 Yale Series of Younger poets, first Negro so honored.

Books: *Negro Digest,* new monthly magazine published in Chicago, first issued in November.

Women: Thelma Hawes, appointed Fort Huachuca's assistant field director over Red Cross hospital activities.

New York's first woman letter carrier, Mrs. Mable Potter, a resignation, after two weeks work as special delivery messenger.

Nationwide drive by National Non-Partisan Council on Public Affairs of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority to air views of Negro on jim crow.

Negro WAACs to go to Fort Huachuca, duty in England also rumored. New WAAC training center to be opened December 1, in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Actress Lena Horne, at work in film, "Cabin in the Sky", suffered torn ligament while dancing.

Color Line: Marion Anderson and DAR spar on jim crow stipulations concerning singer's Constitution Hall invitation.

Over student protest, Princeton university continues Negro ban.

Court testing of Negro exclusion from Texas' Democratic primaries started November 10.

Public monetary support denied five New York Protestant agencies refusing admission of Negro children.

Social: Margaret Washington, granddaughter of Booker T., married to Lt. Marshall S. Cabiness, at Tuskegee, October 6.

Sports: Citizen's Committee to End Discrimination in Baseball organized on national scale.

Joe Taylor and Paul Williamson, Negro members of Montana State university football squad.

International: Pilot officer Peter Thomas, first Nigerian accepted in Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Africans Koffie Busia and Ameshadai Adu appointed assistant district commissioners in their respective provinces by British colonial office.

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Hindu "Untouchable" woman making fuel cakes from dung. The cakes are dried in the sun and then stored in places which are protected from the summer sun by mud

The "Negroes" of India

By Harry Paxton Howard

In the international discussion about freedom of India, little has been said about the depressed classes, the Untouchables, the "Negroes" of that ancient and turbulent land. Mr. Howard, an authority on Asiatic problems, here supplies some little known facts, pleasant and unpleasant, in the first of two articles

THEY lived in a swamp outside the village, in wretched squalor. There were drier sites, but they were used for farmland—or were on the wrong side of the Aryan village. For there was only one side on which these black people could live—the side towards which the wind blew. The wind from their vile ghetto must not "pollute" the air of the Aryan people. So it had been from time immemorial.

The black people worked as laborers on Aryan farms, or as servants in Aryan homes, but otherwise they were outsiders, with no social intercourse whatever. There were, indeed, other servants—originally black like themselves, but greatly "lightened" through one-way intermixture—who lived permanently in the village and could use the Aryans' roads and wells, but these rivalled their masters in their hearty contempt of the quite untouchable people who lived in the ghetto outside the village.

Even the swamp-dwellers were not "pure." Aryan masters were by no means averse to physical intercourse with otherwise untouchable servants, but the children were illegitimate, lived in the ghetto, and had no claims on the father. This, of course, was intercourse of male masters with female servants; a "buck nigger" who valued his life would fear and avoid any temptation from an Aryan woman. Most of the ghetto people had adopted the religion and the gods of the Aryans, but the latter's churches were emphatically inhospitable to the dark people—as were also, of course, their schools. In fact, the outcasts were barred even from using the road passing the church and the better Aryan residences, and those who had day work in the village sometimes had to make long detours to reach their masters' homes.

When the rains came, the hovels of the swamp-dwellers were flooded. Living in damp and wet for weeks, while babies were born and died and children sickened and died, there was no relief except for the fortunate ones who waded through feet of water to the comparative comfort of their masters' homes. It was a long journey, sometimes made in the dark; children occasionally drowned on the way "home." But they could not use the direct road passing by the Aryan church and the "residences." They had to make a watery detour of two miles instead—morning and night.

But the most terrible fear was that of crop shortage. There was less of this nowadays, but the older people could remember the last famine. The Aryan villagers themselves had only a bare sufficiency, so that while the farm-owners and business men had enough for themselves the servants and workmen living in the village faced starvation. And then, of course, they came to the swamp and seized the scrawny animals and little crops of the outcasts, most of them starved. The "niggers" had no legal claim. They were forbidden to own property anyway, and the courts were in the hands of the Aryans.

Everything, indeed, belonged to the Aryans. The dark people had no rights any Aryan was bound to respect. It was dangerous to make claims. The punishment for discontented "niggers" took many forms, violent and "non-violent." The Aryans might grab the miserable wasteland on which the outcasts pastured their wretched animals—seizing the animals in the process; or they might refuse employment or due pay to "uppity niggers"; or they might "peacefully" cut the outcasts' scanty crops and accuse the latter of "violence" if they tried to interfere; sometimes the Aryan storekeepers would refuse to sell them food or other necessaries. The "niggers" were kept in their place. And if they knew what was good for them they would not try to get out of it.

Out of the Depths

A dark-skinned man, with burning eyes, rose to speak at an international conference. And as he spoke, in his quiet, scholarly, but firm and determined voice, the eyes of the white and brown and black men focused on him. For he was one of the outstanding scholars of his country. His studies of finance were accepted everywhere as brilliant and authoritative; they were texts for university students, for business men and bankers, for Government officials. He had lectured in universities, had been a Justice of the Peace and a political figure, and was founder and president of an Institute representing the interests of over sixty million people—equal to half the population of the United States. Men had often listened to him.

But now, as he spoke, some of the brown faces at the table darkened with anger and growing hatred. For he was not talking about finance or currency, but about his own people—the "untouchable" non-Aryan natives of the ghettos. And he was presenting a program which was also a demand—a clear-cut program, in precise constitutional and legal forms, for equal treatment, for civil and political and economic rights, for his people. It was specific, it was clear, it was uncompromising.

He was not an American. Nothing in the above has any reference to America or Americans. He was an Indian—an Indian "untouchable." He was of the dark people who live in the miserable ghettos in swamps and on the outskirts of villages, forbidden the use of the Aryans' wells and churches and the better roads. His name was Bhimrao R. Ambedkar. Six months ago he became Minister of Labor in the Government of India.

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To those Indian Aryans who treasure their "color" and their caste he is still an "untouchable." His appointment as Minister of Labor roused them to fury. For it signalized the greatest advance yet made by India's Depressed Classes towards their modern goal of absolute equality and freedom. And it forced the caste Hindus and Congress Party actually to reconsider and revise their program. For *anything* was preferable to a real rise of the Depressed Classes to a share in political power and influence, threatening the whole age-old structure of Aryan superiority and caste privilege in India.

British and "Untouchables"

But how did it happen that a despised outcast should reach such a position—should have attained the scholarship and knowledge which commanded the grudging respect even of his enemies, and enabled him to formulate terms for racial and human equality which should serve as a beacon-light not only to the "Untouchables" of India, but to pariahs and outcast peoples throughout the world—which might serve, indeed, as a new and militant program for Negroes in the United States? Who was Ambedkar, and how did he get that way?

In large part, the story of this is the story of some vital aspects of British Imperial rule in India. Following the Indian Mutiny of 1857-8, in which Hindu and Moslem leaders attempted to oust the British from India, the British Government realized the necessity of incorporating into the Indian Army other elements than those which had formerly dominated India—which would inevitably seek any opportunity to re-establish their domination. So "popular" elements were trained in arms, including many of the "untouchables." Some of the latter, despite their lack of education, showed themselves as competent as any of the "Aryan" officers—British or Hindu—and in the hard test of military operations earned officers' commissions and special awards.

From one viewpoint, they were being "used" by the British. But their work was not distasteful. They were better treated by the British Army and officers than they had ever been treated by the caste Hindus. And they had opportunities which they had hardly dared to dream of. There were old sayings, indeed: "There are three bloodsuckers, the flea, the bedbug, and the Brahman." "If you meet a snake and a Brahman, kill the Brahman." But this had for generations been nothing more than an impious aspiration. To kill one of the "Aryan" spiritual leaders would bring terrible vengeance not only on the killer, but on all his hapless community.

But now there was congenial work. In the Deccan where the powerful Brahman hierarchy entrenched themselves in the Shanwar Palace, the British ("Tommy") regiments found themselves helpless in the face of the hostility and opposition of the "Aryan" population. This was a job for the "untouchables"—specifically for the redoubtable "Mahar" regiments. And the Mahars undertook it willingly and gladly: killing Brahmans, and kicking to death any "Aryan" who objected, was "pie" for the "untouchables." They enjoyed their work. And the Shanwar Palace was razed to the ground.

"Equal Treatment"

With opportunities came claims and demands—the new and unprecedented demand for "Equal Treatment" for untouchables. The British "agreed," but certainly had no intention of fighting a war against the caste Hindus on behalf of the Depressed Classes, and it was only gradually that they were able to assert and maintain the rights of human beings as against their Hindu enemies. The British subsidized Hindu schools, but if Brahman teachers refused to accept "untouchable" children the British were not inclined to interfere on behalf of these miserable outcasts. Only by the steady growth of self-consciousness and self-assertion among the "untouchables" themselves was advance possible. Just as with American Negroes, they had to free themselves. The "Great White Father" could not do it for them—especially when his more deep-rooted sympathies lay with their "Aryan" masters.

In most cases, the first schooling of "untouchables" was the primary education obtained in the British Army. And some Mahars who earned officers' commissions persisted in asking for education for their children in Indian schools. B. R. Ambedkar's father, as an army officer, secured permission for his two sons to attend a Government-aided school on condition that they stay in a little room by themselves and never "pollute" the caste children either by coming in personal contact with them or drinking from the school fountain or spigot. So young Bhimrao started his education—in a little room never entered by the Hindu teacher, who would gingerly approach the door and look at the slates and lessons written by the two boys and laid on the floor, while the boys retreated to a far corner. They could ask no questions, and got no help from the teacher.

And so Bhimrao grew up, moving from one school to another, and began to attract attention by his brilliance. In high school, he was permitted to sit in the same room with caste Hindu chil-

(*Continued on page* 392)

In Memoriam: The First Spingarn Medalist

Ernest Everett Just: born August 14, 1883; died October 27, 1941

By John Lovell, Jr.

As the first Spingarn Medalist, the Medal Committee chose Dr. Ernest E. Just, noted Negro biologist. In this memorial article, the author tells of the life and work of this American scientist whose achievements have inspired two generations of Negro youth, and of the fulfilment of the Award's purpose in focussing attention on the Negro genius

THE curtain goes up on the grand stage of the Ethical Culture Meeting House, Number 2, West 64th Street—just off Fifth Avenue—in New York City. It is the evening of Lincoln's Birthday, 1915. The hall seats more than 2000 people: it is crowded to capacity with Americans, black and white. Many of them are distinguished men and women of affairs. The great majority are persons who sensed the history-making note in the air and wanted to be folded into the occasion. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is blowing taps to its Sixth Annual Meeting, but one thing is about to happen for the first time.

Master of the ceremonies is Oswald Garrison Villard. Seated on the stage around him are Lindon Bates, Jr., W. E. B. DuBois, William Pickens (who has come all the way from Marshall, Texas, where he is teaching at Wiley College), Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and Ali Kuli Kahn, diplomatic representative from Persia.

In the course of the evening, Mr. Kahn has explained how you could have no justice in a nation unless you apply it to all the people; and the master of ceremonies has skirted the edges of danger by soundly thrashing the politicoes in Washington for an unusual amount of anti-Negro activity and by openly questioning the ability of the then President Wilson to make good on his promises of fairness to Negro Americans.

Resplendent above all others is Charles Seymour Whitman, Governor of the State of New York, surrounded by his military aides in full regalia, gold braid and all. He must appear and make a speech at the Lincoln Anniversary Republican banquet later that evening. But he seems LaGuardia-like to be centering all his fire and force on the present unique affair. He is introduced as a public official who knows no color line. In his speech he boldly asserts that discrimination against any class, race or creed must in the end injure all.

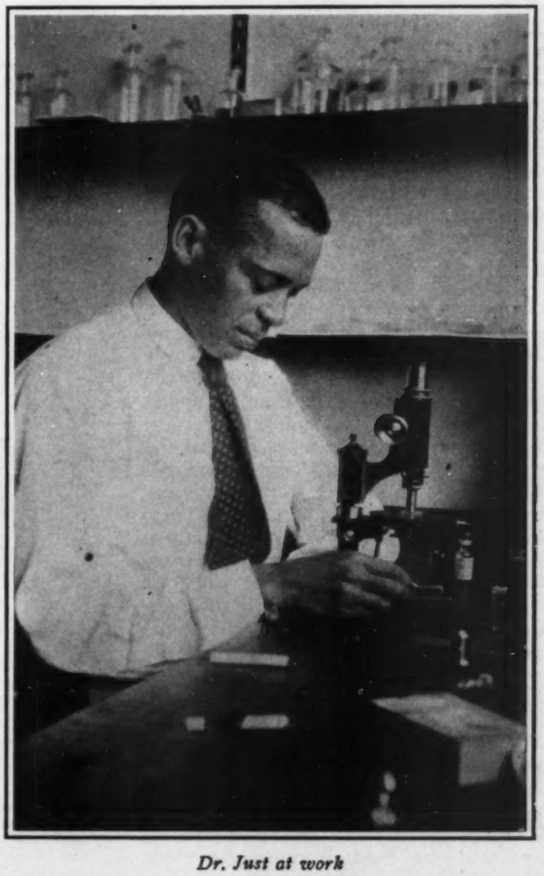
At the end of the Governor's speech comes the climax of the meeting, the one big reason why what would be normally classified as "a successful annual meeting" is elevated to the status of an historical event. The Governor calls to the platform a slender 31-year-old school teacher, from Howard University in Washington, D. C. His name is Ernest Everett Just. Several weeks before, when told of his probable appearance on this spot at this time he had written the Committee: "It rather upsets me to learn that I am expected to be present at the award, doubtless in the presence of a large audience. I feel deeply that I ought not to court publicity, since such courtship ought to be incompatible with scientific endeavor." But he had come. And now he faces this formidable array.

The Governor gives him a gold medal symbolizing justice and merit. It is the first Spingarn Medal. As the Medal passes from Governor Whitman to Professor Just, Governor Whitman says: "The spirit prompting the award of this medal is the spirit of brotherhood, fellowship, and Americanism." Professor Just, accepting the first Spingarn Medal, says: "I thank the Association for the award not so much for myself as for the students whom I represent." This is all he says.

The occasion, with its "brave and bannered words," its obvious and subtle significances, its contrasts, has come down through twenty-seven years like a snowball down a hill, gaining substance and momentum with each year. Some recognition of these gains might help to touch off a suitable memorial to the First Spingarn Medalist, the first anniversary of whose death—on October 27, 1941—we are now on the point of celebrating.

Medal-awarding is not always accurate and fundamental. It is nearly impossible to have on Award Committees persons who are competent to judge on the one hand and without peculiar biases and prejudices on the other. Public clamor, so prone to error and evanescence, often takes a hand and sits at the judging table. But, as with the Nobel Awards (set up in 1896) and the Pulitzer Awards (established in 1911), the annual discussions centering in the Award, especially after a selection has been made, succeed in airing important issues and stimulating the public mind; and no award can hope to do more than that.

(*Continued on page 387*)



Dr. Just at work

Nutrition and Racial Superiority

By Josephine Schuyler

Firm believer in the direct relationship of proper nutrition to superior physique and mentality, Mrs. Schuyler has written widely for the past fifteen years on better diets. Carrying her views into practice, she has reared her daughter, Philippa, on a strict natural diet, with the result that she is physically perfect as to teeth, tonsils, heart action, eyesight and otherwise, and has been cited by leading psychologists as an outstanding example of superior intelligence

OF all Americans, Negroes most need to know about food. They have the worst health and the worst eating habits in the country. Naturally, this is not due to any racial propensity towards malnutrition, it is mainly because so large a percentage of Negroes live or have lived in the South where evils are usually exaggerated and fear of change predominates. When colored folk move away, unfortunately, they carry their food habits with them, and pork and cornbread remain favorites.

Pork might not have been unhealthful in the hills of Arkansas or on the plains of Texas where hogs eat acorns and peanuts or even corn. On the contrary, pork fattened outside of great cities and sold in the slum shops is definitely diseased. Refined cornmeal, flour, sugar and polished rice may not be deadly in the country where there are counteracting influences of strong sunlight, fresh air and cheap greens but in a dark, airless city flat the same fare is violently destructive. Paul McNutt, War Manpower Commissioner, recently stated that whereas about one-half of our farm population could be said to have a good diet, less than one-fifth of our city folk could qualify and that one-third of city diets were definitely "bad." The majority of city colored folk are in this group.

Nutrition is our newest science and like other discoveries can become a dangerous political weapon in the hands of an oppressor. It is within the power of any government now, to limit the food of a minority group and so lower its vitality as to make a real physical and mental difference in races. In the past, oppressed groups often had inferior nutrition as a result of poverty which prevented the purchase of fresh meat and fruit but it was not a uniform procedure. Often, the poor had some foods which were nutritionally superior to those of the ruling class. For instance, the dark whole grain bread of the European peasant was far better than the refined product eaten by the nobility in fancy biscuits and pastry. Black molasses used by the Negro peasant of the South and West Indies is rich with vitamins and minerals unlike the white sugar consumed by the middle and upper classes. But now that nutrition is better understood and governments are rationing food, it can become not only the newest science but the latest weapon. Only recently, a N. Y. *Times* news article stated that people on relief would have to "work or not eat." It takes only a few more steps to decide that "second class citizens must be rationed with second class fare."

Not so long ago it was considered the mark of a food faddist or a fool to insist that nutrition and health were closely related. Now, such is the alchemy of time, it is the prerequisite of a patriot to "eat for health." Once, when the public was urged to forego white sugar for the far more nutritional sweets, honey and molasses, one was thought "peculiar." Now the Chairman of the Nutrition Committee of Greater New York tells you that "rationing of sugar should definitely improve health as the substitution of molasses adds iron and calcium to the diet." Moreover, the First Lady advocates it and so it becomes highly respectable. Logic and reason have little power in changing the habits of a people but fashion and necessity make it easy.

Nutrition a Public Concern

Thus nutrition, formerly a private matter, is now a public concern. The steps that made it so are most illuminating. There is an alarming rise in chronic diseases despite more hospitalization, sanitation and doctors than ever before; millions of work days lost monthly (six million including accidents); an unusu-

Liquified fruits and vegetables, being uncooked, retain all vitamins which high temperatures usually destroy. Above we see Anne Wiggins Brown, noted concert singer and late star of "Porgy and Bess," preparing one of these energy drinks for eleven-year-old Philippa Duke Schuyler, composer and pianist ally high maternal mortality rate for a supposedly "civilized" country; and (especially) the war.

It is not just that our factory workers and soldiers cannot now afford to be ill; what really made the government nutrition-conscious, where before it had permitted anti-social manufacturers to consistently undermine the national health, was something more positive and threatening. Our present enemies, the Germans and the Japanese, were out-fighting, out-thinking and out-enduring the United Nations. There was something more than better and bigger munitions involved. Our enemies were revealing more physical stamina than in any previously known war.

This was quite a blow to our national pride. Americans have always assumed that they were just naturally superior to and of course, better fed, than other nations. That next to them stood the British in health and fortitude. It is true that, on the whole, we had more and better food than folks in other parts of the civilized world and we *should* be physically superior. But our processing and refining of foods has destroyed so large a part of their value that the end result has been a starvation diet. This destructive combination of individual ignorance and financial greed which gripped us did not fully mature until the Twentieth Century. The League of Nations Report on Nutrition in 1937 showed that nearly three-fourths of the observed population of the United States had diets that are regarded as falling short of the optimum—the intakes of one or more essential elements of proper nutrition fell below the standard considered necessary for health and efficiency or failed to provide the requisite margin of "safety."

Negro Diet Inferior

Sad to relate, nearly 90 per cent of the Negro population had diets classified as B or C. The Pacific coast was superior to the South and East because necessary foods like fruits and vegetables were more plentiful and cheaper there. In the South Atlantic states, only 4 per cent of the Negroes had a Grade A diet from the point of view of money spent. This does not reveal how much of this was ruined in the process of cooking "Southern Style."

It was further found that the consumption of basic foods (milk, meat, eggs, butter) was not so high per capita in this country as in some others. We drink less milk than Switzerland and in normal times than even Austria, Czechoslovakia, Sweden or Denmark. Less butter is consumed here than in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the British Isles or even Belgium! Canada, Australia, New Zealand before the war, and probably still, eat far more meat than we—and so did Britain. While New Zealand, Canada and Belgium consumed more eggs than wealthy Uncle Sam.

Generally unknown is the fact that tasty and attractive uncooked cakes can be made from cashew nuts, almonds, figs, dates, raisins, flaked cocoanut and honey. The above picture shows Philippa Schuyler sharing her "vitality" cakes with service men at the Harlem USO club on her eleventh birthday. The cakes were fashioned as a tank, an airplane carrier and an armored truck

It looks as if we have been spending our money on fancy, devitalized packaged and canned foods to the great detriment of health and efficiency. These reports should have moved America to revise its food habits five years before we entered the war. But the American food manufacturers were bent upon exploiting the public to its last ounce of health. At that time, radio and press were still upholding calories as the arbiter of food values—an idea that had been exploded a quarter of a century previously. Thus we can attribute our lag in health to a greed for profits which permitted false advertising and prevented honest discussion of nutrition in the large magazines and papers. In other words, the same people who are now concerned about our bad health, created it by their own greed.

For some time now, unlike the Capitalist countries, the Germans and Japanese have utilized every discovery in biochemistry. The Germans have not starved, in spite of substituting "guns for butter" because German scientists found that whale oil was a far more potent source than butter of vitamins A and D, the vitamins which give butter its value. So whale oil "ersatz" butter was used, pleasantly flavored, of course. Green vegetables, meat and milk may be rare in Germany today but sea farms which cultivate "plankton" that is far superior to any known food, are plentiful. Plankton is a green sea growth which it is prophesied will revolutionize farming. Whereas our meat, fruit, vegetables and milk may be of low quality according to whether the soil is fertile or overworked, plankton is independent of the ignorance of man and derives from the action of the sun on the water. It is said to be the original food of the monsters that once inhabited the sea. It is now the food of whales and Nazis.

Defend Democracy at Home!
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Japanese Diet-Conscious

The Japanese have been awake to the value of proper nutrition for many years. They raised the stature of the average Japanese child more than an inch by compulsory cod liver oil dosing. Their soldiers, like the Germans, carry vitamin tablets with them and a highly nutritious powder composed of dried soy bean flour, fish and vegetables.

Our government, meanwhile, permitted the Pure Food Laws to be written for the benefit of the manufacturer rather than the consumer. Belatedly now, it tries to reverse the mental and physical deterioration which it fostered. The draft found 50 per cent of our young men unfit for general military service, 20 per cent had poor teeth and more than 13 per cent poor eye sight. Both of these deficiencies are easily prevented by plentiful consumption of animal fat like butter, cream, fish oil and fresh fruits. But we were advertised into believing that lard (without any value) and cooked fruits (vitamin C is destroyed by heat) were excellent foods. More than 10 per cent of those rejected had ailments of the heart—a weakness due to consumption of foods robbed of vitamin B, such as white flour products, refined cornmeal, whiskey and beer. So with two out of every five persons here, starving not from lack of food but from low quality of food, something drastic had to be done.

It is splendid that the Government is at last awakening to the fact that it can be no stronger than its citizens. What is to be feared is that a really honest attempt will not be made to acquaint people with the danger of devitalized food, that half truths will be

(*Continued on page* 397)

Richetta G. Randolph

By George S. Schuyler

After thirty years of loyal and efficient service, the first employee of the Association still manages its large national office staff and serves the secretary and the board of directors with accustomed thoroughness

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT had been defeated for re-election, an American army was stationed on the Mexican Border, the country was humming "Some of These Days," and sixty-one Negroes and three whites had been lynched by mobs during the past twelve months when Miss Richetta Randolph joined the staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the last day of 1912.

The three-year-old Association whose organization had stirred the colored people of the United States to a new understanding of their problems in American society and a new determination to systematically work for their solution, was overwhelmed by the multiple task of fighting lynching, color discrimination, segregation and interracial misunderstanding. Forward-looking citizens of both groups were freely giving their time, money and talents to the amelioration of the ills the Negroes suffered in American democracy, and the volume of work at the National Office was tremendous.

An efficient office manager was greatly needed to keep the work progressing smoothly and Miss Randolph was appointed as part-time stenographer. She was well fitted for the task at the cluttered office at 26 Vesey Street in New York's bustling financial district. For some time she had been working as personal secretary to Miss Mary White Ovington, one of the founders of the Association and at present its treasurer and consequently was familiar with the ideals and goals of the N.A.A.C.P., as well as the illustrous personalities who had brought it into being. Prior to her employment by Miss Ovington, she had maintained offices in New York's Hotel Maceo where, as a public stenographer, she had specialized in verbatim reporting and the typing of legal briefs. An intelligent girl fresh from Virginia, she had been utilizing her spare time attending the schools of New Jersey and New York. It would have been difficult to have secured a more efficient person to do the exacting clerical work of the young N.A.A.C.P.

Served Dr. W. E. B. DuBois

The staff was tiny. The most prominent member was Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, distinguished sociologist, who had come up from Atlanta University to serve as director of research and editor of THE CRISIS. Appeals for help against Southern terrorism and lynching poured into the office in ever-increasing volume. Efforts to establish ghettoes for Negroes were being made in all parts of the country, and aroused people of both groups were begging the new organization for advice and action. A people reeling under the blows of an aroused and vengeful South were turning to the N.A.A.C.P. for succor. Branches were growing in number and size as countless recruits enlisted in this great fight for the freedom of a people. And every letter, every postcard, every telegram was written by the hardworking young stenographer. With the expansion of the Association which inevitably followed its militant championing of the Negro, more clerks and stenographers were necessarily added to the Association staff, but the responsibilities for the swift and efficient completion of the work was Miss Randolph's.

Richetta G. Randolph

A Christmas Seal on a Christmas card
Is just a little thing
But helps the N. A. A. C. P.
To make new freedom ring!
100 for $1.00

Mr. Johnson's "Right Hand"

Came 1917, and with it the appointment of the distinguished author and diplomat, James Weldon Johnson, as field secretary and later as executive secretary. From that time until he left the Association in 1930, Miss Randolph served as his personal secretary. Quiet, efficient, industrious and dependable, she served him through the difficult period of the war and the years afterward, through the valient fight to save the Houston and Elaine "rioters", the battle against the mounting toll of mob murder, the long struggle for an anti-lynching law, and the strenuous campaign to break down race prejudice in the courts of the land. It is little to be wondered that Dr. Johnson so often referred to Richetta Randolph as "my right hand." Verily she was.

At every annual conference of the Association it has been Miss Randolph who has gone ahead and set up the office to handle the large volume of clerical work incident to press releases, copying of speeches, dispatching of letters and telegrams, and so forth. It has been done without a hitch and quite as smoothly as if performed in the spacious office in New York. She knows most of the outstanding men and women of the United States, and everyone who has met her either at conferences or in the National Office remembers her for her unfailing courtesy and efficiency.

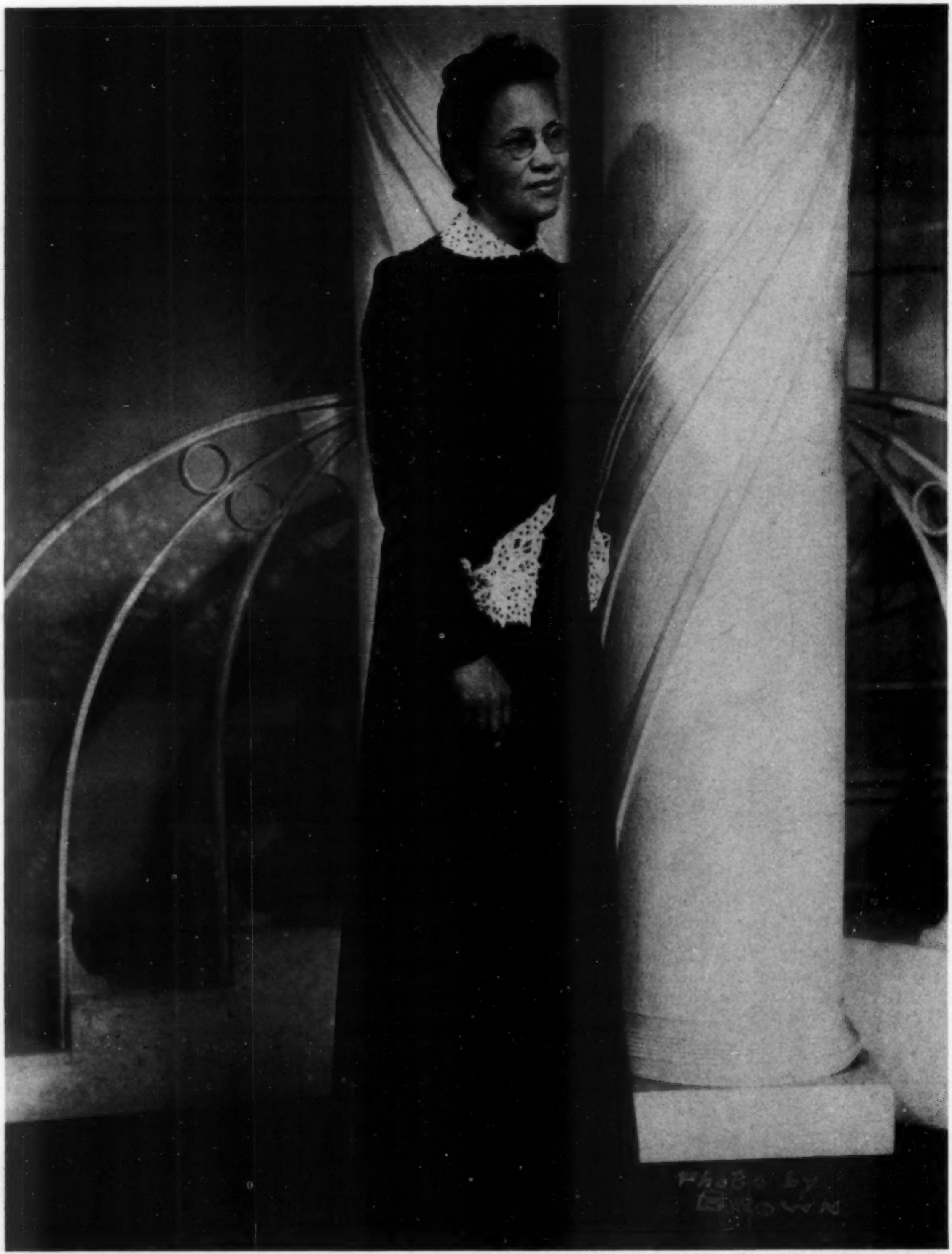
When one has served a great organization of this kind for a generation in the capacity of confidential secretary and office manager, there is little about the work that one does not know. Miss Randolph, as might be expected, is a walking encyclopaedia on the N.A.A.C.P. If she cannot answer a question off-hand in connection with the work or the Association's history, she can tell you where you can find the information. Calm, keen and unruffled, it is largely because of her capable office management that the Association is widely known as one of the most smoothly functioning organizations of its kind in the world.

As she served Dr. DuBois and Dr.

(*Continued on page* 396)

First Ladies of Colored America—No. 4

MRS. FLORENCE C. WILLIAMS was born and reared in Washington, D. C., and educated in its public schools and at Columbia university. She was director of health education among Negroes for the Extension Department of the State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C., for seven years; did demonstration work in health education for the State Board of Health of West Virginia, and was director of health education among Negroes for the Arkansas Tuberculosis Association for nine years. She served overseas during the first World War under the Y.M.C.A. and was sent over again in 1926 by the Phelps Stokes Fund as a consultant delegate in health education to the International Board of Nations conference on Christian Education for Africa at La Zuite, Belgium. She was also a member of President Hoover's Child Health Conference and his Committee on Housing and Home Ownership for Negroes. Since 1934 she has been Director of Health Education among Negroes for the Tuberculosis Institute of Chicago and Cook county, Illinois



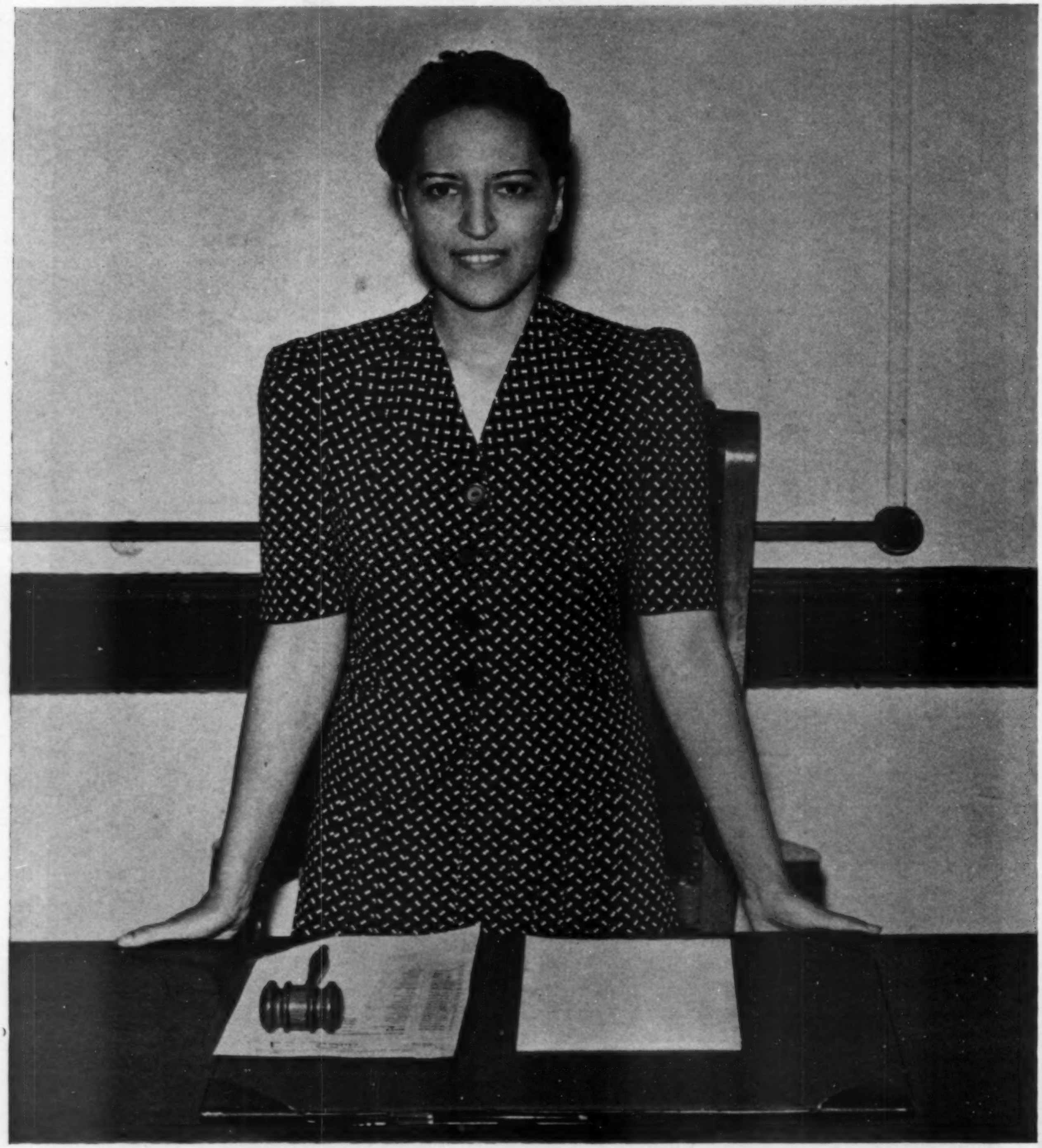
Brown's Studio, Birmingham, Ala.

MRS. B. J. ANDERSON, businesswoman of Birmingham, Alabama, was born in Hamner, Alabama, and is a graduate of Spelman College. She was, prior to her marriage to Dr. B. J. Anderson, a teacher in the industrial high school in Birmingham. In November, 1934, she began the making of candies, a business that has grown to the point that she now has five full-time and three part-time employees and uses five automobiles for sales and deliveries

Mrs. Anderson is the mother of three children and it was from her daughter's name that the name of the business, The Nanette Candy Shop, was suggested.

In addition to her business, Mrs. Anderson has served as treasurer of the YWCA for a ten-year period and as hostess in the local USO at the present time. She is an active member of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, the Twentieth Century Club and the Periclean Study Club.

MRS. ROSA L. SLADE GRAGG was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and graduated from Morris Brown university. She was principal of Eatonton (Ga.) High School, and Acworth (Ga.) public school; headed the department of English, Central Park college, Savannah, Georgia, in 1925–26. In 1926 she married James Robert Gragg, Detroit business man, and has one son, James Gragg, Jr. Now vice president, Detroit chapter, Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, Mrs. Gragg is also a member of the State and National Associations of Colored Women, president of the Detroit Association of Women's Clubs and founder of the Detroit Association Club Building; of the Detroit Council on Fair Employment Practice, the Civilian Defense Speakers' Bureau and the War Information Committee. She was appointed by President Roosevelt, in 1941, to the National Advisory Board of the Office of Civilian Defense and by Gov. Murray D. Van Wagoner to be Race Relations Advisor, Michigan Council of Defense



JANE M. BOLIN was born in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and received her education there and at Wellesley College, from which she graduated as a Wellesley scholar in 1928. She received her degree from the Yale Law School in 1931, becoming the first and only Negro woman to be so honored. Morgan College, in 1940, awarded her the LL.D., degree. In 1937 she was appointed an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Law Department of the City of New York, and in 1939 became a Justice of its Domestic Relations Court. Justice Bolin is the only Negro woman ever to be either an assistant corporation counsel or a justice of the domestic relations court in New York. She married Ralph E. Mizelle, attorney, in 1933 and has a son, Yorke Bolin Mizelle, born July 22, 1941

In Memoriam

(*Continued from page* 379)

Purposes of Medal

The admitted purposes of the Spingarn Medal were and are two-fold: "first, to call the attention of the American people to the existence of distinguished merit and achievement among American Negroes, and secondly, to serve as a reward for such achievement, and as a stimulus to the ambition of colored youth." Naturally, it is American white people for whom this service is primarily intended; for are they not, in their schools, newspapers, history books and other educational channels, subjected to blank ignorance and distortion about their darker brother? But the American Negro needs the information and the stimulating discussion, too.

Thus, when an Ernest Everett Just is called by a Governor Whitman to a New York platform, upon which the eyes of thousands of Americans throughout the nation are focused, to receive a Medal given by a Joel Elias Spingarn, a great deal more than a reward for merit is taking place. In the whole drama, the Spingarns symbolize the minority of white Americans who campaign aggressively to make democratic living complete by bringing the "final tenth" of Americans into the general fold. The Whitmans are the official voice which now and then—but alas too rarely and at times too weakly!—bespeak the determination of America to live up to her original blueprints. And the Justs are the alas too few members of the "final tenth" who do not expect democratic privileges to come to them where they sit with folded hands; but who by courageous struggle in the regular fields of endeavor "hack their way to power." As Medal after Medal is given, the drama grows more varied, but also more intensified.

In this special period of American life, characterized by the emergence and acclaim of really distinguished Negroes, the Spingarn group of American men and women are genuinely exciting. Joel Elias Spingarn, for example, was gambling a considerable prestige by outfacing American apathy and prejudice for colored people. He was approaching the top in two professions: literary critic and army officer. His books on Elizabethan poetry and on the history of literary criticism are permanent in literary archives, for beauty and utility. He reached the rank of Colonel in the United States Army. But Joel Spingarn in these arenas had demonstrated a passionate will to freedom. As teacher of literature at Columbia University, he had squared off with no smaller an opponent than Nicholas Murray Butler on the question of teachers' rights. Disregarding security and institutional prestige, he resigned a full professorship and published an open letter, vigorously defining and asserting his principles. In the army, he had carried his fight for Negro officers against the toughest opposition; and more than any one else he was responsible for the Des Moines Camp and hundreds of Negro officers in the First World War, the main plan for which provided the basis for the vast improvements in Negro officerships today.

The Spingarn Medal, then, is a certificate, guaranteed by right-thinking Americans, to the effect that men of ability and high spirit shall not be separated by race. Fate and the first Award Committee could not have been happier in their first medalist. For indeed Ernest Just belonged in this new, unracialized community of distinguished Americans by any qualification under which it has been customary to judge great Americans.

Parents Were Workers

Let the qualification be that of ascent from humble but substantial origins. Ernest Just's father was a builder of wharfs in Charleston, South Carolina. His mother taught and worked in the phosphate fields four miles from Charleston. When Just, Senior, died during Ernest's fifth year, his mother sold her property, established and became principal of the first industrial school in South Carolina, at Maryville. She had even founded the Maryville community. In it, she taught sewing, millinery, dressmaking, *and* academic subjects. She later introduced the cooperative selling of moss, substituting a truck for the many small loads individuals in such communities had been accustomed to. So much did he honor her creative energies that Ernest Just dedicated his major work, *The Biology of the Cell Surface* "To the Memory of My Mother."

Let the qualification be that of initiative, ingenuity, and resourcefulness to accomplish a goal hedged around with major difficulties. Ernest Just went to New York City when he was seventeen, with small resources except sound home training and determination. He says he had five dollars in his pocket. He got a job with the Clyde line and made enough money to go to Kimball Academy in New Hampshire. He not only finished the four-year course in three years, but meanwhile was editor-in-chief of the academy magazine, president of the Philadelphian (debating) Society, and winner of the Francis E. Clark prize for extemporaneous speaking two years in succession. He then went to Dartmouth College on his own, where he won innumerable prizes, honors and recognition (including several in Greek language and literature), finishing his courses *magna cum laude* and with membership in Phi Beta Kappa.

Or if the qualification is devoted, practical service to the people, Ernest Just began meeting *that* in 1907, his first year out of school, when he went to Howard University. A card in his own handwriting, dated March 19, 1915, shows that he taught English in the Commercial Department and College, English and biology in the College, and zoology in the College and Medical Department. He was not a cold, classroom teacher; he lived the lives of his students. Along with President Thirkield, Kelly Miller, Benjamin Brawley, and William Victor Tunnell, he talked informally with his students on the subject, "College Ideals." He was the founder of organized dramatics at Howard, raising the curtain with Oliver Goldsmith's *She Stoops To Conquer* on the 16th of April 1909. He was always encouraging his good students, taking them to lunch, inviting them into his home. Even in his latest years at Howard, he was—contrary to some current opinions—warmly admired and much sought after. His list of proteges included some of Washington's best-known professional people—Miss Nellie Quander, and Drs. Charles West, William Lofton, and James Walker.

To talk of his work as a researcher is to leave fields in which he was the equal of many Americans and to rise into a field in which few were his equals. Mature and aspiring scientists the world over looked up to him, read his periodic papers eagerly, came to him or wrote for advice, acknowledged his wisdom and brilliance. In physiology and chemistry he was a notable figure; in zoology, a rare one; and in cytology—the world of cells, their make-up and reaction—he stood almost alone at the top. The young scientists at Woods Hole and other laboratory centers in America and Europe, who came to him for illumination, always found his help forthcoming.

In the period between his arrival at Howard and his selection for the Spingarn Award, Ernest Just spent his summers in the Marine Biological Laboratories at Woods Hole, Massachusetts. It was here that he won the Award. From his Dartmouth days, he had been interested in the meaning of the egg and in the force or substance or Promethean fire or whatever-the-name that electrifies and transcends mere plasmic ingredients and makes life, life. But he was both poet and scientist, and his closepacked observations with microscope and electrical apparatus were developed with the broadest understandings.

His studies were unhurried and thorough. His first publication was in the Woods Hole periodical, *Biological Bulletin*, Volume XX, March 1912, and it was entitled, "The Relation of the First Cleavage Plane to the Entrance Point of the Sperm." The language he used was simple and direct, but possessing always a literary flavor. He told vividly what he had seen and what these sights seemed to mean. His lucidity in scientific reporting

(*Continued on page* 394)

Sending a Christmas Card?

Be sure you place an N. A. A. C. P. Christmas seal on it

$1.00 buys 100 seals

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Fight Anti-Poll Tax Filibuster: Declaring that a "filibuster on a bill designed to give democracy to a people who are being asked to fight and die for it would do irreparable harm" the association announced, October 30, that it will continue to exert pressure upon the United States Senate for the passage of the Pepper-Geyer anti-poll tax bill.

The association stressed the effect of a filibuster on the Axis powers and the use the enemy would make of it in propaganda to the people of the Orient, Africa, the Carribean and Latin America.

Discrimination in the War Department: The Washington bureau is investigating persistent rumors that Negroes are being discriminated against by the Allowance and Alottment branch of the War Department, which is moving its offices from Washington to Newark, N. J.

It is alleged that Negro employees are being discouraged from transferring with the office by officials who contend that housing accommodations for Negroes are inadequate. Present information indicates that while housing facilities in Newark are equally acute for white employees, there has been no effort on the part of officials to deter whites from going.

Many of the Negroes who have insisted upon going have been given termination notices on the ground of inefficiency. Efficiency ratings have been issued in spite of the fact that many of those rated have been employed only a few weeks and, in some instances, have been assigned to the supervisor or other rating officer for a very limited time.

The Newark branch has been requested to make an investigation of the housing facilities in Newark for Negroes, the ratio of housing facilities for prospective Negro transferees, and purported opposition of the City of Newark to the immigration of the Negro government employees.

Justice in New Jersey: Prosecution of the Jersey City police department is being sought under the conspiracy statute by the association for their treatment of ten "witnesses", nine of them women, held incommunicado in the Hudson county jail for the past five months. The ten Negroes were arrested in June in vice raids on Bayonne taverns ordered by Mayor Frank Hague and Prosecutor Daniel E. O'Regan.

The association has secured the services of Arthur Garfield Hays, who, along with Donald Crichton, Thurgood Marshall and local lawyers, will bring action for a writ of habeas corpus in the Federal court.

Stimson Defends AEF: Answering the recent charge of Walter White that British opinion was becoming increasingly alienated by the boorishness and racial bigotry of some of the southern soldiers in the American Expeditionary Forces stationed in England, Secretary Stimson, October 20, in a let-

Jersey City, N. J., Branch officers. Standing, left to right: Harriet Seay, Samuel Scott, Dr. Paul F. Sinclair, E. J. French, treasurer; Felix J. Isom, James Curry, Fred Martin, Atty. James B. Bright, Nathaniel Johnson, Anita Harris, Sec. Sitting, bottom row: Winifred Quinn, Letitia Holloway, Rev. D. L. Miller, Rev. E. S. Hardge, President, Dr. James R. Stroud, Vice-President, Cordelia G. Johnson, Vice-President, Mary E. Pope, Asst. Secretary

PANCAS, Wilmington, Delaware. First row: Mrs. Mollie Fleming, Rev. Seymour H. Barker. Pres. of branch, Mrs. Irene Taylor, Mrs. Josie Driggess, Mrs. Emma Davidson, Mrs. N. A. A. C. P. for 1942, William Kent, Mrs. Rosa Peace, Chairman of Campaign, Mrs. Lena Wood, Miss Gertrude J. Henry, Treasurer of the branch, Miss Helen Starkey, Mrs. Jean S. Jamison, Branch secretary; 2nd row: John H. Taylor, Frank Carter, Mrs. Reba DeShields, Mrs. Lolita Williams, Mrs. Effie Brown, Mrs. Eva Jones, Mrs. Irma Lawson, Mrs. Grace Johnson, Mrs. Mary Gray LeMay, Arthur W. Reed, Jr., George A. Johnson; Third row: Mrs. Sarah Blake, H. R. Hamilton, Mrs. Thelma Jones, Mrs. Marguerite Reed, Dr. Leon V. Anderson (topped the list for subscriptions), Mrs. Estella Boulden, Mrs. Elsie Fleming, Patrick J. Harris, Sr. Not in the picture: Mrs. Charles Stallings, Mrs. Ann Johns, Mrs. Bessie Daniels, Miss Gertrude E. Henry, Miss Wetonah Barker, Mrs. Rosa Purnell, Mrs. Pearl Henry, Chester Cropper, Louis L. Redding, G. Oscar Carrington, Mrs. Marjorie Jackson, Luther J. Porter, Miss Magadaline Morris, Reginald Jackson, Dr. John L. Davidson, Fannie Faulkner, Arnold E. Emory, Mrs. Eliza Lowe, M. Frances Bordley

ter to the association said:

"Under existing law and court-martial procedure, misconduct on the part of military personnel may be adequately dealt with. The commanders of overseas theaters of operations are charged with the duty of maintaining discipline among members of their respective commands. The War Department exercises the utmost care and vigilance in the selection of personnel charged with the duties and responsibilities of commanding officers, and reposes great confidence in their action and judgment."

Radio Slurs Negroes: A recent CBS radio portrayal of a Negro messman as a stupid and frightened clown was labeled as vicious Nazi propaganda and a valuable contribution to the anti-war forces of Senator Rankin and the League for White Supremacy by the association. On November 11, an apology was demanded and a future barring of such treasonous propaganda from the air. William Robeson, of radio station WABC, said that he realized too late that the skit would be offensive to Negro listeners and promised that there would be no recurrence of such offense.

In sharp contrast to the actions of Pearl Harbor's hero, Dorie Miller, the writer of the so-called documentary drama, "The Man Behind the Gun", had a terror stricken Negro messman faint in the face of danger.

Proposed Remedial Steps in Living Costs: Urged to wipe out price inequalities in Negro communities, Leon Henderson, OPA Administrator, told the association, October 16, that the OPA was:

"anxious to have these problems given full consideration in the conduct of its war work.

"We anticipate", Mr. Henderson's letter continued, "that during the following months actions will be taken which will have the effect of leveling off ceiling prices of particular commodities for all retail stores within a given class of outlets. Such action would of course automatically eliminate any price differentials which previously existed in Ne-

Bakersfield, California, branch. Thomas W. McManus turns check over to officers of the branch, Mrs. Clara B. Howard, sec., and John E. Ward, president. Check for $132.10, represents money obtained by Mr. McManus from sale of eleven gold certificate memberships

The Committee from the Interdenominational Ministers' Wives Association of Greater Cincinnati, Ohio. who staged a N.A.A.C.P. mass meeting at Bethel Baptist Church in that city on October 25. From left to right, Mrs. L. A. Divine, Mrs. Maggie Patterson, Mrs. Clara Tait, president of the Ministers Wives Association, Mrs. Jennie Austin Fletcher, program chairman Cincinnati branch, Mrs. Lucille E. Clay and Mrs. J. E. Zellers. Not shown, Mrs. Hattie Walker, program chairman Ministers Wives Association and Mrs. Illa Turpeau, who was the principal speaker

gro areas and other areas for the same commodities sold in the same types of retail outlets."

The association had pointed out that the higher prices found in New York City, as were indicated by the survey, "Food Costs More in Harlem", point to the probability that such price differentials must exist in comparable segregated Negro areas throughout the nation. Plans are under way for similar surveys in all major American cities by the association.

Detroit Pickets WMC: Mayor Jeffries of Detroit refused to issue any statement against the anti-Negro policies of the local war plants in answer to the claim of the Detroit branch that less than three per cent of the women employed in that city in war industries are Negroes.

The conference with the mayor, held November 5, took place while a picket line of 150 circled the Boulevard building which houses the War Production Board and the War Manpower Commission. Regional director Cushman, of the WMC, informed the committee that making of policy and the forcing of employment of Negroes were not within the power of regional heads.

The Detroit branch has declared its disapproval of the appointment of the prejudiced, former manager of the U. S. Rubber Company as the new regional head of the WMC in that area.

Conference on Anti-Negro Policy: To discuss the consistent refusal of Tom Ray, of the A. F. of L. Boilermakers Union, to hire Negroes in capacities other than laborers, representatives of the War Manpower Commission, the Maritime Union, the War Production Board, the Kaiser Company and the American Federation of Labor met at conference in Portland, Oregon, on November 10. Negro workers at the shipyards have been assured that President Roosevelt's anti-discrimination order will in the future be followed by both "management and labor."

WAAC Segregation Scored: Voicing a vigorous denial of rumors that she favored the segregation of Negro WAACS at the training center in Des Moines, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, in a letter to the association dated November 4, stated:

"I have read with great alarm your findings on the status of segregation being practiced in the training of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps at Fort Des Moines. Specifically, I am even more alarmed because of the information coming to you and to Negro members of the WAAC indicating that I have given my approval to this segregated plan of operation.

"I have never at any time approved segregation at Fort Des Moines."

Churchill Questioned on Negro Bar: To determine the truth of a rumor that because of the existing friction between Negro and southern white soldiers in the American Expeditionary Forces in England no more Negro troops would land in England the association, on November 13, cabled Winston Churchill:

"We are informed that British government has requested United States government to send no more Negro soldiers to England because of complications created by prejudice of certain American troops from southern states. Will you advise if such request has been made? We trust it has not as capitulation to race prejudices by Great Britain or United States can only injure morale of colored peoples throughout the world."

Negro Suffrage Case Fought: The fight for the Negro's right to vote was continued on November 10, when special counsel Thurgood Marshall appealed to the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court to reverse the lower court's decision in the case of Lonnie E. Smith, Negro, against S. E. Allwright, election judge and James J. Liuzza, associate election judge, 48 Precinct of Harris county.

Marshall charged the Democratic Party with being a "Loose-jointed organization with no constitution or bylaws.

"The only resolution we've been able to find that they've ever passed," he said, "is this one against the Negro.

"By refusing to let the Negro vote in the primary," he continued, "the Democrats cut the Negro out of voting entirely because the primary is tantamount to election."

Filed originally in Houston on April 25, 1942, Smith charged the election judges with unlawfully denying him and other qualified Negro voters the right to vote in the Democratic primary election in Texas on July 27, 1940, and August 24, 1940, "solely because of race and color".

Smith is seeking $5,000 damages and declaratory judgment permitting him and other Negroes to participate in future Democratic primary elections in Harris county.

Branch News

California: The Peninsula branch is interesting itself in the case of an electrician,

Time to Buy . . . .
N. A. A. C. P.
CHRISTMAS SEALS

NAACP·NAACP·NAACP
HOLIDAY
GREETINGS

Help the fight for full citizenship rights by using these seals on holiday packages, letters, greeting cards and gifts. Proceeds go to NAACP general budget to help carry out its program

Book of 100—$1

BUY FROM YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OR ORDER FROM

N.A.A.C.P.
69 Fifth Avenue New York, N. Y.

Ralph Lee, who was discriminated against by the electricians' union of the AF of L, in San Mateo, California. The branch has filed the case with the Committee on Fair Employment Practice and the Bay Area Council Against Discrimination.

At the November 4 meeting of the Sacramento branch, Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary, was the principal speaker.

Delaware: Mrs. Daisy Lampkin, field secretary, spoke at the October 31 meeting held by the Wilmington branch.

Illinois: A war bond rally was sponsored by the Chicago branch, October 26, with Walter White, secretary, as the principal speaker. A goal of $50,000 in war bonds was set.

The Springfield branch, in conjunction with the Illinois Conservator, a Negro newspaper, is sponsoring a fight on jim crow in the restaurants of that vicinity.

Indiana: The Terre Haute branch held a defense day program at the Allen AME Church on October 25. The role of the Negro in the war was the main topic of discussion.

Michigan: A good-will team of the Detroit Round Table of Catholics, Jews and Protestants addressed the meeting of the Detroit branch on October 29.

New Jersey: The Burlington county branch held an open meeting October 25, at which time Julius Zinman, president of the Camden B'Nai B'Rith, was the principal speaker.

New York: Dr. John A. Singleton, president of the Jamaica branch, was honored at a testimonial dinner, October 26, given him by the members of the Jamaica branch and other borough leaders in appreciation of his past services to the community. Thurgood Marshall, special counsel, and James E. Allen, president of the Harlem branch, were among the speakers.

In its membership campaign, held from November 9-23, the New York branch had a goal of 10,000 memberships.

The Ossining branch, at its meeting held October 30, sent telegrams protesting the recent lynching in Mississippi and urging passage of the anti-lynch bill to President Roosevelt. The branch also registered a protest of the barring of Negro children from institutions and orphan asylums in some parts of New York State.

Ohio: A musical program featuring the Songfetts was given October 22 by the Portsmouth branch. Guest speaker for the evening was City Manager J. F. Parkinson, who spoke on "City Government".

The annual meeting of the Toledo branch was held Sunday, October 18, with Rev. Calvin K. Stalnaker, president, the principal speaker.

Washington: Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary, spoke on "The Negro and the War Effort", at a meeting held by the Seattle branch, October 28.

The Tacoma branch presented Roy Wilkins in an open meeting held October 29.

West Virginia: A musical program was presented by the New River division, Sunday, October 25, in connection with the membership campaign. A mass meeting, held November 1, closed the campaign of the branch.

At the November 1 meeting of the Charleston branch, Miss Elsie Austin, national president of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, spoke on "The Need for Spiritual Leadership".

The Wheeling branch had its first public forum of the season October 25, with Ivan S. Justice, secretary of the Wheeling YMCA, as the guest speaker.

Youth Council News

Fourth Annual Student Conference: Reports indicate that the Clark College conference was a huge success. Ninety-one delegates, mainly students under 20 years of age, came from many of the Northern schools and as far west as Texas. A number of white youth from southern colleges also participated in the deliberations. The theme of the conference was "War and Post War Problems for Negro Youth," which included panel discussions on War and Postwar Aims, Negro Youth and the Franchise, Minority Strategy in War Time, Negro Youth and Civil Liberties, and Negro Youth and Jobs.

One of the highlights of the conference was the crowning of Miss Samella Bradford, student at Clark, as MISS NAACP. Miss Bradford won this title after bringing in 51 new members to the college chapter.

Henderson, N. C.: The Henderson youth council is now making plans for the Program for the coming year. A "Negro Poetry Program" was presented in the auditorium of Henderson Institute. The group is in the midst of a membership campaign, which is bound to be a success. Plans are also being made for the sponsoring of a debate, and the rendering of a play during Negro History Week.

Norristown, Pa.: At the October meeting of the Eastern Youth Leaders' Council, which met at Haverford, the election of officers for 1943 was held. They are as follows: James S. Laster, Philadelphia, State Director; Dorothy Moat, Media, assistant state director; Clara Jenkins, Ardmore, recording secretary; Irene Corley, Norristown, corresponding secretary; Thomas Edwards, Media, treasurer; and James Williams, Ardmore, chaplain. Plans for bigger and better accomplishments are in full swing.

Jamaica, L. I.: The newly organized Jamaica youth council, at its October meeting, resolved by a unanimous vote to support the National Organization in any way possible, in protesting the recent lynchings in Mississippi.

Newark, N. J.: An introductory dance was given by the newly chartered Newark youth council. The officers of this group are: Jerome Wilson, president; Viola Vaughn, vice-president; Robertha Harris, secretary, Franklin Banks, treasurer; Mrs. Guy Moorehead, advisor.

New Youth Councils Chartered: At the November meeting of the Board of Directors, the Jamaica, L. I., and South Bend, Ind. youth councils were granted official charters. Officers of the Jamaica group include Vivian Blae, president; Sybil McRae, vice-president; Janice Elliott, secretary and Artell Kichard, treasurer. The officers of the South Bend youth council are Herbert Lewis, president; Juanita Barton, vice-president; Peggy Flowers, secretary; and Christine Webb, treasurer.

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

The Committee on Nominations nominates the following persons for membership on the National Board of Directors of the NAACP, for terms expiring December 31, 1945:

MR. S. JOE BROWN,
Des Moines, Iowa

MISS MARION CUTHBERT,
New York

HON. HUBERT T. DELANY,
New York

MRS. GRACE B. FENDERSON,
Newark, N. J.

DR. BUELL GALLAGHER,
Talladega, Ala.

MR. LEWIS S. GANNETT,
New York

MR. JOHN HAMMOND,
New York

PROF. S. RALPH HARLOW,
Northampton, Mass.

HON. WILLIAM H. HASTIE,
Washington, D. C.

MR. CARL MURPHY,
Baltimore, Md.

DR. WILLIAM ALLEN NEILSON,
Falls Village, Conn.

MR. A. PHILIP RANDOLPH,
New York

REV. JAMES H. ROBINSON,
New York

MR. ARTHUR B. SPINGARN,
New York

DR. CHANNING H. TOBIAS,
New York

DR. ELIZABETH YATES WEBB,
Alexandria, Va.

These nominations will be voted on at the Annual Business Meeting of the Association to be held on Monday, January 4, 1943.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:

GEORGE A. BEAVERS, JR.
WILLIAM H. HASTIE
A. A. LUCAS
O. CLAY MAXWELL
JAMES J. McCLENDON
ARTHUR B. SPINGARN
CHARLES E. TONEY

"Negroes" of India

(*Continued from page* 378)

dren, but on a back bench; no other children could speak with him or play with him. But the leaven of liberalism was already penetrating India, and boys of unorthodox parents would sometimes speak to this solitary scholar in their midst. His brilliance came to the attention of a Maharajah who offered to finance his higher education in the United States (Columbia) and Great Britain. And from there he returned to India—an economist, a sociologist, and a lawyer. His admission to the Bar gave him his first real opportunity to fight for his oppressed people. By absolute integrity and great competence he forced his way ahead to a position of Justice of the Peace, and even became a member of the Bombay Provincial Legislature. He lectured on law and on economics. His books, "The Evolution of Provincial Finance in British India" and "The Problem of the Rupee" are the great standard works on Indian finance. His works on "Indian Caste Customs" are much less known. The high-caste statesmen who read the former do not care for the latter, and many of them would not associate with the author.

The "Science" of Caste

The Indian word for "caste" is Varna—meaning "color." Today, indeed, the four primary *varnas* have been divided and subdivided into hundreds of castes and thousands of sub-castes, but the four-group distinction still remains fundamental and primary. Mahatma ("Super-Soul") Gandhi, the great Indian political leader, follows Swami Dayananda and the Arya Samaj in urging a reorganization of the system which will do away with the multiple subdivisions and return to the "original" four *varnas,* with every member of each hereditary caste following his old occupational grouping and never aspiring to alter this: "All are born," says Gandhi, "to serve God's creation, the Brahman with his knowledge, the Kshatriya (military leader) with his power of protection, the Vaishya (bourgeois—Gandhi's own caste group) with his commercial ability, the Shudra (manual worker) with his bodily labor." The "law of heredity," Gandhi believes, "is an eternal law . . . any attempt to alter it must lead to utter confusion. . . . The caste system is inherent in human nature. Hinduism has simply reduced it to a science."

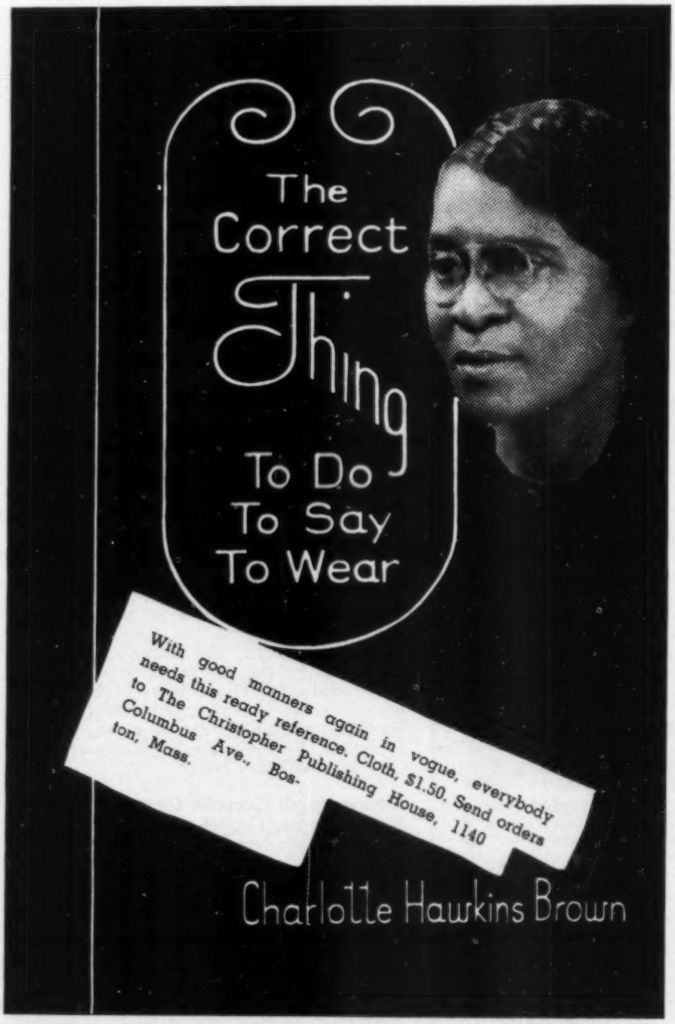
This Aryan "science," so fundamentally similar to the Aryan "science" of Nazi Germany, was formulated by the fair-skinned Aryan-speaking tribes who invaded India during the second millennium B. C., conquering and subjugating the dark-skinned natives. Between the Aryas and the Dasas (dark people) there were extreme differences of color, physical features, speech, and religious beliefs and practices. And the Aryans, besides drawing a distinct line between themselves and the blacks, in time came to draw lines between different groups of blacks. The native peoples brought into bondage and physical service by the invaders were marked off as Shudras—black workers, fit only for bodily service and menial work. Their women, however, might serve quite intimate purposes. Many of our own southern Aryans would agree with the old Brahman text that a woman of the black race was meant only for enjoyment, and not for the furtherance of any "higher" purpose such as marriage. And the Brahman punishment for a black man having intercourse with an Aryan woman—having his sexual organs cut off, and burning alive—is also not unknown in Dixie, though happily never codified into law.

But beyond the pale of the enslaved and steadily "lightened" Shudras there were other dark peoples as yet unconquered or only tributary. These, and some workers in religiously "unclean" occupations, were "out-castes"—outside the "scientific" Hindu system altogether. And the four *varnas,* as they developed into rigid hereditary caste groupings, were not in fact four colors in any real sense. The three higher castes—the "twice-born"—were all primarily of Aryan origin, the Brahmans claiming the greatest "purity." The Shudras, as well as the out-castes, were primarily of the "Dasa"—many of them with Aryan blood through one-way intermixture.

In northern India—particularly in Hindustan, the old stamping-ground of the Aryan conquerors and their culture—the "color" and racial distinction is still evident. Even after three thousand years and more, the Brahmans are still noticeably lighter in color and "finer" of feature than are the lower castes and outcasts, and their occasional blue, gray, or gray-green eyes are notable and significant. But in much of southern India it is difficult to establish such a distinction. Tribal chieftains of the dark native races have established kingdoms and empires, and sometimes found the caste system and the Brahman's services eminently suited to the preservation of their own power and prestige. So the "scientific" system of Hinduism spread throughout the peninsula, and eastward overseas as far as the Philippines, Melanesia, and even Japan, and westward through Arabia into Africa. It is the most viciously "scientific" system ever devised for the permanent enslavement of man. And its basis is expressed in its name: Color.

Karma: "Eternal Justice"

It was tremendously buttressed by the doctrine of Karma—the Law of Eternal Justice. According to this doctrine (fully developed by the Indian Buddhists), human beings are born in good or evil conditions as a reward or punishment for their conduct in previous lives, since the soul does not die but simply migrates from one body to another. Shudras, outcasts, and beasts in less human form were simply receiving due punishment for sins committed in previous existences, while Brahmans and other favored ones were being justly awarded for pre-natal virtues. Karma gave hope to all—even the outcast, who might by abject humility and gifts to the Brahmans hope for divine favor and a Brahmanship in some future incarnation—when he in turn could kick around the outcasts and the serving



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castes. The proper relationship of the castes is well expressed in the Laws of Manu—one of the few books in the possession of Gandhi's father (who, like his father before him, was Prime Minister of an Indian native state), and which strongly influenced Gandhi in his youth:

"The Brahman is lord of the castes. . . . Giving one's life for the sake of a Brahman . . . brings ultimate bliss even to outcastes. . . . Merely to serve the Brahmans is the most excellent occupation of a Shudra; anything other than this profits him nothing. . . . His means of life should be determined by the Brahmans . . . in accordance with what is fitting. . . . The leavings of food should be given him, and the old clothes; so too the bad part of the grain; so too old pieces of furniture. . . . A Shudra should not accumulate wealth, even if he is able to do so, for a Shudra's possession of wealth only injures the Brahmans."

So Hinduism, the "Blight of Asia," the most "scientific" system ever devised for keeping the masses divided, weak, impotent, degraded, ignorant, wretched, passive, and helpless, has carried on for thousands of years. Aryan farmers and herdsmen, however exploited by their religious, military, and economic masters, could feel themselves "superior" to the Shudras and outcasts. The Shudras, however miserable their servile existence, could live in the communities of their Aryan masters and look down upon the outcasts. And in time of distress and famine even the Shudras could plunder the outcasts of their scanty stocks, since the "niggers" were not permitted to own property and had no legal claim to anything. And the outcasts, if they were humble and obedient and starved without resentment, had the hope of subsequent birth into a higher status.

It was a real "science." And it worked.

Mohammedanism entered India in the form of one invasion after another, each striking deeper into the heart of Brahman-land. They were fierce, ruthless invasions—as fierce and ruthless as those of the Aryans two or three thousand years previously. But when the pillage and slaughter and destruction of the Infidels' temples came to an end, and the invaders settled down as conquerors, there was a new spirit in the country. For Islam recognized neither race nor caste, rejected Karma and the Brahmans, and kept the equality and mutual aid of the Faithful open to all who were burdened and oppressed—Aryan or Dasa, caste or outcaste, Hindu or tribesman. Before God, and in his temples, they were equal.

So there came the process of conversions which changed the map and the face of India. Generation after generation, outcasts and Shudras and even Aryan peasants in great areas of northern India (the center of the Moghul Empire) abandoned Hinduism for Islam. The Moslems number over 90 millions today—almost one-fourth of the population of India. And nine-tenths of these Moslems are primarily of Indian ancestry, descendants of outcasts, Shudras, and other low-caste Hindus who turned to a freer and more democratic faith, abandoning the black superstitions and human sacrifices, the distinctions between "twice-born" Aryan and degraded non-Aryan, the vicious caste system and the demoralizing Karma, and the sub-human veneration of worthless cows and even more worthless Brahmans, which constituted "scientific" Hinduism.

(*Note: Next month Mr. Howard will tell how the Untouchables are becoming a real political force in India as the demand for independence grows.—Editor*)

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Book Review

THE BIOLOGY OF THE NEGRO by *Julian Herman Lewis, Ph.D., M.D.*, University of Chicago Press, 1942. xvii + 433 pp. $5.00

This timely book, through which Dr. Lewis renders science and his people an important service, scores first with its paper jacket. The basic black tint shading into yellow-brown subtly but effectively emphasizes at the outset, the racial mixture represented by the Negro in the several parts of the world. One quickly perceives that the volume contains more data on its subject than have hitherto been assembled under one cover and so will be welcomed as a significant contribution to the long recognized need for a scientific reference volume on constitutional studies of the Negro. The usefulness of the book well justifies the patient labor obvious on every page.

The author, as a pathologist, is primarily interested in disease. This is clear from his preface and the fact that six of the nine chapters are specifically devoted to disease manifestations, while pathology distinctly has its hand in the other three. The chapters deal respectively with: population and vital statistics; anatomy of the Negro; biochemical and physiologic characteristics; medical diseases; surgical diseases; obstetrics and gynecology; diseases of the skin; diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat; and dental diseases.

The book has professional value not only for its content, but for its convenience as a guide to a large literature. The general reader will be grateful for the lucid presentation of available information on many subjects of popular discussion, either as curiosa, such as steatopygia, racial odors and the principles of hair straightening, or as public health problems like tuberculosis and syphilis. The author's constant effort has been to preserve an impartial attitude. He "has no thesis to develop or disprove." The volume modestly "pretends to be nothing other than an arranged assembly of the observed and reported facts concerning the biology, including pathology, of the Negro."

Seldom cited contributions of the Negro to the building of our nation are of interest. Lewis records that the apparent immunity of the tropical Negro to malaria, subsequent to his heavy infection in infancy, is high. "Striking evidence of this was seen during the construction of the Panama Canal, which was made possible by the imported labor from the West Indies. The contrast in the mortality from malaria between these West Indian laborers and American whites was remarkable."

While at pains to stress that the American Negro is a socially and not a racially delimited group, and that no generalizations may be applied uniformly to all Negroes, Lewis believes the evidence clearly indicates the reality of racial differences in reaction to disease. This emerges from analysis of the data on nearly 90 clinical disease entities. The differences may refer to great susceptibility related to shorter historical exposure, as with tuberculosis, or to immunity acquired through longer contact, as with yellow fever and hookworm disease. They may be associated with anatomical racial features, as with differential Negro-white ratios in incidence of skin diseases, or with peculiarities of body reaction, as shown by the greater tendency to formation of fibrous tissue as in wound scars or in fibroid tumors of the uterus.

One disease, sickle-cell anemia, would appear to occur only in the Negro, with no apparent causal relationship. The author's special experience with this condition enabled him to enrich the book with a full clinical description such as would appear in a text on the practice of medicine. In his zeal to prove that sicklemia is exclusively a Negro disease, however, he approaches dangeously, the *reductio ad absurdum* which the Negro himself denounces in respect to so-called "tests" of Negro blood, such as nail pigmentation, split nasal cartilage, and the like. Lewis' arguments might be said to imply that a bona fide diagnosis of sicklemia in a white man is tantamount to evidence of some Negro blood, acquired either through unknown recent ancestry or through prehistoric infusion of Negro blood into southern European ancestry, but in reality, no known fact precludes the possibility of occurrence of authentic sicklemia in the white.

Lewis shows how modern improvement in coverage and accuracy of data has altered common opinion in respect to diseases such as diabetes and Buerger's disease, which formerly were believed to be of slight or rare occurrence in the Negro, but are now recognized to have a frequency which eventually may show little racial difference. We are given the facts and cautions concerning conditions such as diseases of the heart and blood vessels and of the kidneys, on which statistics though voluminous, are often unsatisfactory and difficult of evaluation. Discrepancies in conflicting theories which result from such inadequate information are pointed out. The excellences of the Negro as a surgical risk, related chiefly to his resistance to infection, are described and noteworthy facts in relation to special conditions cited.

On most subjects the evidence appears to have led to no sharp departure from current leading thought on the conditions described. One envisions that the work will soon be a handbook for members of medical societies and reading clubs in the preparation of the periodic papers they must regularly present.

With its many merits, the book has some faults. The chapter on anatomy would seem to have been a step-child, slighted by the author and ignored by the eminent referees who checked the manuscript. This section is unbalanced and incomplete, e.g., the fat buttock of the Bushman receives two and a half pages while blood vessels and nerves are omitted. Errors of fact include: the reference on p. 71 to fusion between the collar bone and breast bone, which never occurs normally and would be a serious matter if it did—what is meant is the growing together of the upper and lower parts of the breast bone, a matter of little functional import; the statement on p. 20 that round-headedness is indicated by a cephalic index below 75, and long-headedness by one above 80, when the reverse is the case; and the allegation on p. 74, that the material of his list of writers on muscular variations "consists for the most part of the dissection of one or two subjects." This does great injustice to his recent authors whose series generally included over one hundred and in cases more than five hundred subjects. A looseness in dealing with matters without the province of the author's special interest is apparent even in the preface where another author's bibliography is said to contain "about 250 titles" when the actual number is 380.

Lewis' book was called originally, "The Anthropathology of the Negro." This title would have been better, because it more aptly describes the contents and the weaknesses are principally in non-pathological sections. The biology of a people covers the whole range of living phenomena and the moribund is but a phase, however intriguing. Data on the normal are not as abundant as on the diseased, but it is neither enough nor just to dismiss subjects not treated with statements to the effect that data are inadequate or biased, for this applies to much that is discussed. Fertility and growth and development are important biological subjects omitted, yet such studies as those of Pearl on comparative racial fertility and contraceptive practice, and of Royster on growth and body type of children would seem worthy of mention.

In a task of the magnitude addressed by Dr. Lewis, one is moved to admire accomplishment, rather than deplore inevitable omissions. Still some excite surprise. There is no word on C. B. Day's unique Harvard study, "Negro-White Families in the United States," the material of which could hardly be duplicated. Again, since other scholars have published reviews similar to the present one on special phases of the Negro, an acknowledgment and orientation might have been appropriate, because the content and bibliography of some of these surveys were obviously used by the author and that of others would have economized effort if they had been. The work of Matas, DuBois, Loth, Bakwin, the Journal of Negro Education, and Holmes, in addition to several reviews on clinical subjects, may be mentioned in this connection.

One misses a general summary which would not only have organized and condensed the facts and import of the vast information presented, but afforded a critique of present knowledge in the light of the author's conclusions weighed with those of other students, after the manner of Pearl in his "Biological Factors in Negro Mortality," and Holmes in his, "The Selective Action of Disease."

Philosophical implications are not a matter of emphasis, but two suggestions are worthy of note. The author takes the untenable position that all Negroid racial traits are adaptive modifications (pp. 18, 19), and then twice refutes himself by citations of the non-adaptive nature of antler size in certain deer (p. 23) and of the Negroid hair form (p. 65). Scattered references to the action of disease as a pruning hook reserve a collective interpretation because of the broad interest and importance of the implications involved.

None of these items impair the solid worth of the work nor diminish the reader's gratitude that a volume of its kind should appear with so many facts so well assembled at a time when just such information can be very valuable to those who would fully integrate a strong segment of the national population into the survival effort. W. MONTAGUE COBB

In Memoriam

(*Continued from page* 387)

was reminiscent of Thomas Huxley, H. M. Tomlinson, or William James.

He made no attempt to be a witch doctor, nor to mystify scientists or laymen with his techniques and results. The best proof of this is to be found in the fact that he kept scrupulous notes on his methods so that they could be used by other students of marine animals. In 1939, answering many appeals, he released his *Basic Methods for Experiments on Eggs of Marine Animals*. The book published simultaneously in England and America, has been praised as a valuable manual. It is one more evidence of Just, the teacher, the big-hearted, sympathetic friend, who wanted intelligent men to know how to know life.

If anyone is startled by the fact that Just won the first Spingarn Medal for three years' work, 1912–1915, when there were other worthy persons who had careers of long standing behind them, let him study the depth and far-reaching significance of Just's first three years. He was setting up a flare in a field of inquiry where ultimate success would have the profoundest repercussions upon life and living all along the line. He was getting down to a solid answer for the questions which deductive philosophers had long speculated upon: such questions as What is the basic life-force? How does it reproduce itself in kind and in evolutionary steps? What are life's meanings in the areas of human endeavor on the basis of what life, at its primal source, actually is? For broaching these questions in an unerasable manner, he had earned this first Medal.

What, indeed, was more fitting than that the people of America should emphatically come to know that a member of America's lowliest group was meeting the severest tests of learning unflinchingly and honorably? Who could have conceived a better method to get this knowledge across? How better could the nation's fancy be quickened and stirred?

Still Ernest Just might easily have brought a negative emphasis upon this new device for democratic understanding had he not become a Continuing Spingarn Medalist. In almost every year after 1915, when he won the award, as researcher, writer, teacher, right down to the year before his death, he quietly produced results which must have challenged each Award Committee. I list by years here the number of articles he published for a quarter century and be it noted that all these were in the channel he had opened in 1912—all were in pursuit of his original search, than which nothing was more fundamental:

1912	1	1927	4
1913	1	1928	6
1914	1	1929	6
1915	3	1930	7
1919	3	1931	1
1920	1	1932	1
1921	1	1933	3
1922	7	1934	3
1923	3	1935	1
1924	1	1936	3
1926	2	1937	2

In 1938 and 1939 he was carrying two large books through the press and writing still other articles. *The Biology of the Cell Surface* in 1939 was the culmination and essence of 62 separate scholarly reports and still other unpublished investigations.

Man of Vision

Looking briefly at his *magnum opus,* we can see that Just was less a world-famous investigator and more a man of great insight and vision. In his preface, he admitted that he had expected at first merely to report his views on some simple biological problems, based on twenty-five years of research. At length, he found himself speaking to the wide audience of "those who look with interest upon the manifestations of life in animals and in man, who desire to know more, and more exactly what answers to their questions concerning life biology can give . . ." He found also that he would have to work in style for "even the most abstract truth needs to be expressed with simplicity and clearness and thus relate itself to everyday human experience."

He proceeded then to his main thesis which was that the ectoplasm, or the outer wall of cells which make up living things, has a far greater part to play than scientific men had

(*Continued on page* 396)

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The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorneys outside their home towns. The Crisis maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights.

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40 S. Nineteenth Street, Philadelphia
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VIRGINIA

Martin A. Martin
Southern Aid Building, Danville
Telephone: 2475

In Memoriam

(*Continued from page* 395)

previously believed. Since it represented the marginal line where the cell and its environment came together, the ectoplasm in its strength or weakness had much to do with what went into or came out of the cell, and helped to determine the internal operations of the cell. This meant that the nucleus was not absolutely dominant in the cell, as biologists has so long taught.

The full implications of this thesis are hard to state in a few words. Just suggested many in scientific fields, and a few in aesthetic and ethical fields. Competent reviewers of his books and articles said that when his assertions were fully tested, they would probably have much bearing upon the difference between living and non-living things, upon the determination of sex in advance of birth, upon the difference between plant and animal life, upon the backgrounds of the brain and sense organs, of thought as the product of the brain, and upon such medical understandings as the real functions of "the liver, the kidney, the gut, the pancreas, etc." Some authorities have spoken with hope that these new facts may help in the fight to control cancer.

The galaxy of men and women "of African descent and American citizenship" who followed Ernest Just as Spingarn Medalists showed America that her Negroes could be masters in many lines of work. For achievements in acting, there were Charles Gilpin (1921) and Richard B. Harrison (1931); in business, Anthony Overton (1927); in education, Carter G. Woodson (1926), Mordecai Wyatt Johnson (1929), Henry A. Hunt (1930), Robert R. Moton (1932), W. T. B. Williams (1934), Mary McLeod Bethune (1935), and John Hope (1936); in the general culture, Archibald H. Grimke (1919) and Mary B. Talbert (1922); in the healing arts, Louis T. Wright (1940); in labor relations,

(*Continued on page* 397)

Richetta G. Randolph

(*Continued from page* 382)

Johnson as private secretary, so has she served the present executive secretary, Walter White, since 1930. Through the memorable Parker fight, the difficult days of the Great Depression, the many fights for the passage of an anti-lynching law, the campaign to integrate Negroes into the New Deal, the effort to democratize the U. S. Army and Navy, and the other campaigns the N.A.A.C.P. has waged under the leadership of Walter White, it has been Richetta Randolph who has kept the mountainous clerical work going smoothly, selecting the right person for the right job in the large office she heads. In addition to her many other duties, Miss Randolph is also clerk of the board of directors of the Association.

It is a far cry from those early days when she typed the copy for the first issue of THE CRISIS and worked until all hours getting the correspondence of the young N.A.A.C.P. into the mails. She never watched the clock then, and she never watches it now. Her motto is to "Get the job done, quickly and well."

In private life Miss Randolph is Mrs. Frank E. Wallace, and her home is at 251 Decatur Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Daughter of the late Richard E. and Martha Chapman Randolph, she has three sisters: Mrs. Mary H. Clark, of Chicago; Miss Florence Randolph, of New York City, and Mrs. Gertrude Saunders, the latter being the amiable receptionist at the national office.

Always active in the affairs of her community, Miss Randolph is an active member of the Mount Olivet Baptist Church in New York City where she has served on the board of trustees for nine years.

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In Memoriam

(Continued from page 396)

A. Philip Randolph (1942); in literature, William S. Braithwaite (1918), James Weldon Johnson (1925), and Charles W. Chestnutt (1928); in music, Harry T. Burleigh (1917), Roland Hayes (1924), and Marian Anderson (1939); in public affairs, Charles Young (1916), W. E. B. DuBois (1920), and James Weldon Johnson (1925); and with Just in science, George W. Carver (1923).

They are a good crew, perhaps comparable to any list of American Medalists. They have, for the most part, vindicated the donor's faith in what this Medal would do. The areas of life in which they made their distinctions are sufficiently difficult to put more than an ordinary test upon their mettle. And American white people are much better off for knowing them as personalities—which knowledge the Spingarn Medal helped to effectuate—and further for knowing that nothing of weakness in the Negro temperament could justify the inequalities which these and millions of other Negroes daily had to climb over.

"Heroes To Look Up To"

The Spingarn Medal has certainly given the Negro youth an assortment of their own heroes to look up to. This is significant not in a chauvinistic sense. To have it said: "See, these great Negroes are Americans" is not nearly so important as to have it said: "See, these great Americans are Negroes," as so may others be. And in making his future demands for the equality and justice that belong to him, he has here a convenient and diversified mass of evidence to offer, namely, these men and women and their records. If someone argues—as someone has—that one or another of these people was unworthy beside one or another of his fellows, that argument merely strengthens the original case.

About Ernest Just, there has never been any such argument, and there never will be. In his quiet way, he was a noisy challenge to the busy upholders and the apathetic tolerators of the color line. Though never a propagandist, he did more in twenty-five years of cloistered research than he could have in twenty-five years of vigorous propaganda to cut the ground from arguments proclaiming the Negro's inferiority. He was the hardest kind of a fighter in his way; and he was victorious.

The American Negro can be justly proud that the war now being fought for the freedoms of peoples is but an extension of the campaign he has fought in America for a good many years. Today's orators are using his pleas, his slogans and his arguments for elemental justice as though they were new. His former enemies are now bivouacked with him, and they are finding the fare of realistic freedom very hard to take, as witness the recent discussion in the House of Representatives on the anti-poll tax bill. The American Negro may smile as he looks back over the turn of events.

But he must not smile long, nor must be relinquish the lead in the fight for freedom. He can turn to Ernest Just, the first Spingarn Medalist, for inspiration. More than that, his memory of Ernest Just imposes an obligation upon him. As things have developed, he is obliged to make his struggle from the very roots of life, and he has no choice but to follow the trail of a man who had to overcome racial barriers in order, for the benefit of all humanity, to come to grips with the biological problem of life at its point of origin.

The Nazis who interned Ernest Just in France in 1940 were doing a symbolic thing which the haters of liberty have been doing to the Negroes of America for generations. But we are determined to break these chains, and our war which started long before Pearl Harbor must probably continue long after an United Nations victory. For such a long pull, we should, like Ernest Just, make battle always on a fundamental basis. Like him also we should become supremely

"strong in will
To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

Nutrition

(Continued from page 381)

circulated. Already we are being told that the reason the American Milling Association produced white flour was solely because the public demanded it. The truth is that white flour keeps better and is therefore more profitable to large manufacturers. Whole grain flour, being alive, attracts insects. The fact that even the new "fortified" flour is not healthful, though slightly better than unfortified white flour, will not be explained. It will certainly not be pointed out that grain ground fresh at least every three weeks is necessary for vital health. Local grist mills, and not the big millers, would then get the business.

Although the Government repeatedly warns the public not to eat underdone pork, it does not explain in detail why. Nor does it tell you that most hamburgers, hotdogs and sausages have large admixtures of pork so that even if you cooked all your pork well, you might still get trichinosis. This is a dreaded disease which already has afflicted some 15,000,000 Americans. Its symptoms are similar to rheumatism and there is no known cure. Hogs fed on city slop eat insect eggs deposited there. These hatch in the animal's stomach and crawl to its joints. Nests of eggs are laid there and when we eat them they hatch in our stomachs and are carried by the blood stream to the muscles. The evil could be easily stopped were the Government to force the restaurant men who control the slop at least to cook it. But such action would take away the present profits in table slop.

Danger To Minorities

The greatest danger, though, facing any minority group in a fascist-minded country, is that rationing will be made for the benefit of one group over another. Germany is already deliberately giving Poles and Jews a low-vitality diet which in time will make them incapable of revolution or resistance. It is not impossible that in this country which has never hesitated to cheat the Negro in wages, housing or education, that pressed for proper food, the Negro will find himself as usual denied equal rights.

It is because of this danger, more serious than many know, that colored folk should learn as much as possible about proper nutrition. With expert knowledge, substitutes can often be made in the diet without dire results.

If oranges, lemons, grapefruit or tomatoes (all of which provide the very necessary Vitamin C which prevents scurvy) are removed from the diet, this vitamin can also be supplied plentifully by raw cabbage, raw onions, and raw Irish potatoes. They must be raw, though, for heat destroys this vitamin.

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If you cannot get freshly ground whole grain or buy Vitamin B tablets, a daily teaspoonful of inexpensive Brewer's yeast will prevent pellagra. If you cannot get milk or butter, quantities of raw green leaves and sunshine will prevent serious disorders of the nose, lungs or bones. If you have only a limited number of eggs, never cook them but beat them up and add them to milk or any liquid and drink them. You will get more vitamins out of one raw egg than many cooked ones. Remember that lamb heart is as good as a steak, nutritionally speaking, and far cheaper; that young steer liver is better than calves liver, and cheaper; that lamb and beef kidneys, which so many spurn, are superior to chicken in food value. If you can only get one orange, learn to eat the whole fruit, skin and all. There are many minerals and vitamins in the part you throw away and one orange eaten whole will do you more good than two used for juice. You can grate the orange or lemon peel and use it to flavor desserts. That old proletarian vegetable, the lowly onion, is as good as an orange any day—if eaten raw. Turnips, equally snubbed, are wonderful sources of Vitamins C and A, especially if grated and eaten raw with lemon juice and meat drippings. Make a salad of the grated white root and surround it with the chopped green leaves, garnish it with hard-boiled eggs and there is a dish!

In buying meat, remember that the most expensive cuts are the least nutritious. Always ask your butcher for some extra fat—beef fat especially. Then use this when cooking your potatoes or beans. It is well to remember, too, that the shorter time you cook your food, the more vitality it has and the better health it will build. Steam all your vegetables that you don't eat raw, with as little water as possible and the lid tightly on.

Eat Whole Grains

It is an utter waste of money and a destruction of health to eat anything but whole wheat grain. Wonderful cakes can be made of it by using molasses—unsulphured—and sun dried raisins. But it is better to eat ice box cakes made of raw, ground, dried fruits and nuts. Never make your bread with soda or baking powder, it kills the vitamins in it and also in the rest of the food you eat. Make yeast bread, or corn pones, or tortillas—corn cakes made with boiling water, rolled out thin and dried out on a hot pan or lid or stone. This is wonderful served with Mexican dishes.

It is well to know that deeply green leaves like turnip greens, spinach, watercress, etc., are far more nutritious than the more expansive lettuce; that carrots, if eaten raw, can partly substitute for butter; that raw beets and sweet potatoes grated are excellent sources of Vitamin A which builds resistance to colds and strengthens eyesight. People who cannot live without their rice will find the unpolished grain just as pleasant and far more healthful. Make your own noodles out of whole wheat flour and egg yolks.

These are only a few hints. The study of nutrition will repay mothers and cooks a thousandfold. Negroes must not allow themselves to become a permanent pariah class from low vitality and consequent poor mentality. That these qualties are the result of diet was recently accepted by so conservative an authority as Columbia University.

Dr. Roger Williams, who recently received the Chandler Medal from that institution for his research in vitamins, stated in the paper he read on the occasion that an ample supply of vitamins will not only provide better physical and mental health but will also foster the development of morality. He further stated "that our work indicates that vitamins in the diet make a difference in cancer . . . that one vitamin does cure mental derangement . . . that an abundant supply promotes intellectual keenness."

The ravages of malnutrition can plainly be detected in any gathering. Ill-shapen heads and legs reveal early deficiency in calcium and Vitamin D—which milk and fish liver oils would have prevented. Bad complexions show a long addiction to devitalizing starches and cheap fats. Poorly developed jaws and noses too narrow or too flat are preventable defects. Bad teeth and poor eyesight reveal a low intake of raw fruit or vegetables and insufficient animal fat (butter, cream or cod liver oil). So we discover that beauty also has its roots in proper nutrition. Ugliness is simply a lack of balanced proportions. Every child in the world could be beautiful and bright, if from conception, it had been correctly fed. If Negro mothers really want to raise the status and increase the health and beauty of their group, they will immediately get down to the business of feeding their families scientifically.

The Negro had a great start in life, biologically speaking. Hailing from a continent of strong sunlight and vigorous growth, he carried in his dark skin a reservoir of strength and vitality. Negroes have almost no cancer of the skin, unlike whites. The melanin in dark skin enables it to utilize and absorb sunlight better than lighter ones. It is possible that whiteness is derived from albinism and is in itself a weakness due to a deficiency of melanin. It is not generally known, but dark skins "tan" more quickly than white ones. The terrible slave traffic of early Colonial days, had one advantage for the Negro group. By a process of natural selection, all weaklings were weeded out and only the superior survived and mated. This capital stock of vitality has enabled the Negro to survive as well as he has, the even more oppressive low wage period following the Civil War.

A third period has now begun. In the new era of scientific feeding and government rationing, the Negro must not lag behind. He must consciously use food as a weapon of survival and a means of improvement. The glory and honor of changing the present downward trend of health in Aframerica and making the Negro again the splendid physical specimen he was on arrival in America, belongs to the mothers of the group. I feel sure, if sufficiently aroused, they will enthusiastically embrace this opportunity.

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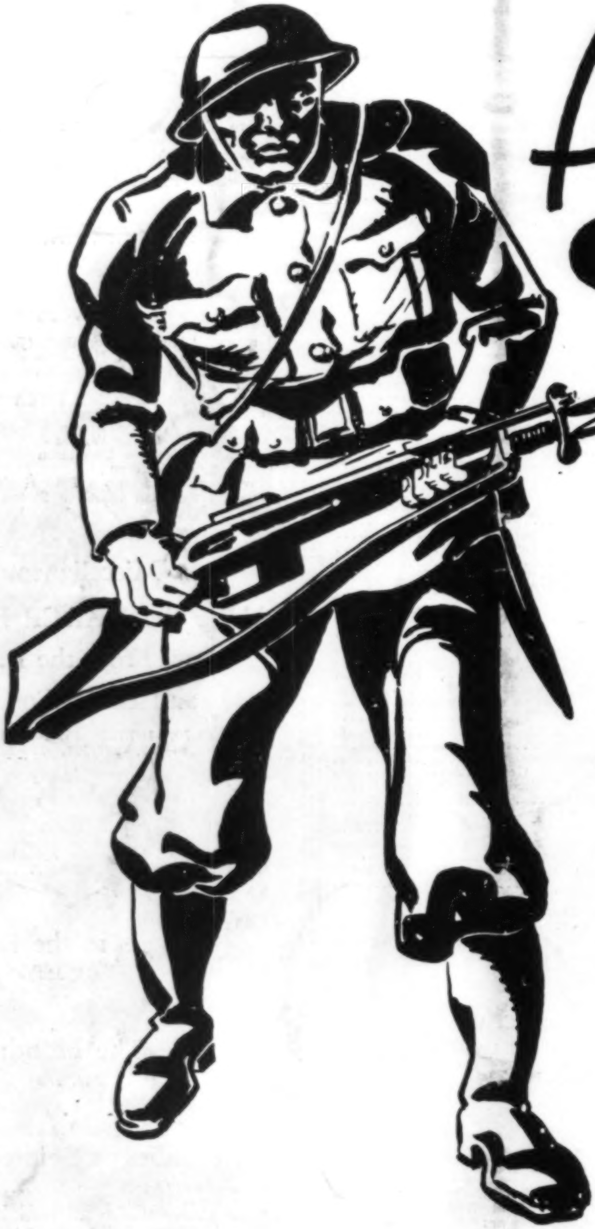

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